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Health professionals try a variety of ways to  
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Silence = Fest  
4th Annual Silent Film  
Festival at the Castro.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 27 • 8 July 1999

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## Judge to United: Pay benefits now



It's demonstration time: "Tinky Winkys" protested outside of United Airlines' San Francisco ticket office on July 1; were arrested; and then hauled away in the paddy wagon.

by Cynthia Laird

A federal judge has done what a cadre of "Tinky Winkys" could not. U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken ruled last Friday, July 2 that United and other air carriers must immediately offer no-cost benefits to domestic partners of employees while their case against San Francisco's equal benefits law is on appeal. In her decision, Wilken said the airlines had failed to show that offering non-health benefits required under the law would cause them

hardship, and denied their request to delay providing the benefits.

United's refusal to comply with the law has sparked a national boycott and sporadic protests. Wilken's decision followed by one day the arrest of four "Tinky Winkys" and one "Anita Boycott" at a demonstration calling for the airline to end its lawsuit. The demonstrators, including activists Seth Watkins and Gilbert Baker, blocked the downtown San Francisco United ticket office entrance shortly after noon, and were arrested, cited for disturbing the peace, and released. The Teletubby costumes weren't re-

motely related to the lawsuit, but Baker had already made them for last month's gay pride festivities and they were eye-catching enough to attract considerable press attention. Thursday's demonstration was to increase media focus on United's legal efforts to undermine legislation requiring companies doing business with the city to offer identical benefits to domestic partners of employees as employees spouses.

The Air Transport Association of America (ATA), and Federal Express are joining United in the lawsuit.

In April 1998, Wilken ruled that the city

could require the airlines to offer some benefits to employees' domestic partners, but because they are federally regulated, they are exempt from provisions of the law requiring health and pension benefits. United appealed the decision. In May 1999, Wilken ruled the airlines must provide bereavement leave, family medical leave, spousal flight discounts, and other non-health and non-pension benefits. The airlines requested that they be allowed to delay implementation of the ruling during the appeal, which United filed in late June. Wilken's ruling last Friday

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## Murder of Orinda TG shocks and mystifies



by Ed Walsh

The murder of Orinda resident Margaret Bodfish exposed her transgendered double life, and ironically shattered the one thing she would have given her life to protect: her anonymity.

Authorities are still trying to unravel the bizarre circumstances surrounding the beating death of a woman described as extremely reclusive, who passed her male alter-ego off to neighbors as her son.

Bodfish, 56, was found bludgeoned to death Wednesday, June 30 in a posh neighborhood along Miner Road known for hav-

ing some of the highest priced real estate in the East Bay. The next day, the man police believe to be her son, 33-year-old Max Wills, was found dead in a Southern California motel room with his wrists slashed.

Few people knew Bodfish well, but the neighbors at her second home in the North Bay probably got the best glimpse of what they now know was her double life.

Paul Thompson remembers well the day two years ago when Bodfish first checked out the house that was up for sale next door. Thompson is affectionately known as the Mayor of Vista De Valle Street in Mill Valley. Unlike Bodfish's neighborhood in Orinda, the homes there are close together and

everybody seems to know everybody else.

"She looked like a hippie out of People's Park in the sixties," Thompson told the Bay Area Reporter. "Long salt and pepper hair, long sack dress, and sandals." Thompson says Bodfish was checking out the house for her son who had allergies and couldn't cope with the vegetation around her other home in Orinda. After the sale went through, Thompson says he didn't see anyone at the house for a long period of time until the person he knew as Margaret's son, Emmon Bodfish, moved in.

Thompson says Emmon was very private and avoided almost any contact with any of

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## FTC warns against HIV home tests

by Mark Norby

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), some current home tests for HIV can give users false information about their HIV status. The announcement came Thursday, July 1, after the FTC completed a series of tests on HIV home test kits, advertised and sold on the Internet for self-diagnosis.

The FTC claims that in every case the kits showed a negative result when used on a known HIV-positive person, and that the tests should have shown a positive result. "These tests were given to a number of known HIV-positive individuals and in each case the test failed," FTC press agent Vickie Streifeld told the Bay Area Reporter.

While Streifeld was able to confirm the test's apparent failure, she was unable to provide information on the number of individuals that were tested, nor was she able – due to strict FTC public information guidelines – to comment on when the tests were conducted.

Although Internet ads for these home-use kits may say they are only for sale outside the U.S., American consumers have been able to purchase some of these kits. Some ads state or imply that the kits have been approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) or a similar human services health organization, or that the test kits have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The FTC warns consumers that neither the FDA nor WHO approve or license HIV

test kits, and that neither organization has yet approved any home-use HIV test kits for use or sale in the U.S. However, the FDA has approved only one HIV test for consumers, called the Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System, for sale in the U.S. It is not a home test like a home pregnancy test, for example, but a system where consumers collect blood samples and send them to a laboratory for analysis, where they are processed through FTC-approved guidelines.

The FTC concludes that reliable HIV testing can be done only through a medical professional or clinic, or through use of the Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System. ▼

For more information, call the FTC consumer info line at 1-877-FTC-HELP.


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# LYRIC Young, Loud, and Proud Conference this weekend

by Mark Norby

Much is in store this weekend for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth (LGBTQQ) as LYRIC, the Laverne Youth Recreation and Information Center, holds its fourth annual Young, Loud, and Proud Conference at Mission High School near the Castro. Over 600 queer young people from across the nation will attend July 9 through July 11, making it the largest LGBTQQ youth conference in the world.

Thousands of young people come to San Francisco each year, many of them are runaways who have little emotional or financial support in a new and strange city. Studies produced by LYRIC staff indicate that more than 6,000 young people ages 15-23 find themselves in San Francisco in the course of any given year. More than 35 percent of these young people are LGBTQQ youth. Lack of basic support

leaves many of these young people jobless and homeless.

"With the recent failure of Sheila Kuehl's bill (AB 222) that would have protected young LGBTQQ students from harassment," says LYRIC conference director Erik Berg, "it has never been more clear that LGBTQQ youth must have better access to the support and resources that will enable them to be healthy, safe, and active in the leadership of their communities."

Berg emphasizes that national studies show that seven in 10 youth who commit suicide are queer. Because of isolation, loneliness, or abusive situations, "they feel there is nowhere to turn, and the result is a growing number of hopeless, suicidal queer youth," Berg adds.

One of the key philosophies behind Young, Loud, and Proud is to empower young people and foster a sense of sharing and support, in a community-based environment. Participants will be exploring, networking, and organizing around cutting-edge is-

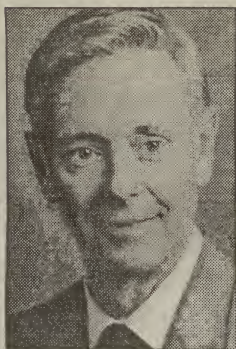
ssues ranging from youth activism to queer spirituality. There will be several workshops focusing on HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, and safer sex issues. Other workshops are oriented around surviving placement and displacement for homeless queer youth, with shared testimonies of personal experiences. Health-oriented workshops will cover issues ranging from stress management to how to access support from mental health services.

The conference also features keynote speakers including Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammann and queer youth activist Alana Flores. The conference is free and open to the public and pre-registration is suggested, but not required. ▼

Mission High School is located at 3750 18th Street between Church and Dolores streets. To pre-register call Erik Berg or MC Ettinger at LYRIC at (415) 703-6150, ext. 25.

## Police search office of gay 'toilet lawyer'

by Liz Highleyman



Attorney Bruce Nickerson

On July 1, officers of the San Carlos Police Department searched the offices of attorney Bruce Nickerson, who has made a name for himself defending victims of cruising busts and other sex-related cases.

The three officers claimed that they were conducting a "probation search" on Robert Shreve, who is both an employee and a client of Nickerson's. The police searched Shreve's camper, which is next door to Nickerson's home and office, and Nickerson's office itself. At the time, Nickerson was in Sacramento participating in the

selection of a jury for the trial of gay journalist Bruce Mirken, which was scheduled to resume this week.

The police examined Shreve's office computer, which contained all of Nickerson's legal files, thus compromising the confidentiality of Nickerson's many clients. The officers also asked Shreve whether he was associated with the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA).

According to Nickerson, the search appeared illegal, given that state law requires that any search involving the files of a professional whose private communication with clients is legally protected must be conducted by a lawyer from a California Bar Association who is specially qualified to conduct such searches. In a court declaration, Nickerson claimed that the investigation of Shreve was merely a pretext to justify a search of his own office, and that "the real reason for the search was to harass and intimidate me and to violate my privacy and that of my clients."

Nickerson, who has characterized himself as "the best toilet lawyer in the state of California," is representing Mirken in a case stemming from an Internet entrapment that resulted in charges of lewd acts with a minor—in reality, an adult undercover officer who Mirken conversed with online and agreed to meet in a public park. Last June, Nickerson won a case in which a superior court judge ruled that a police sting operation focused on gay cruising in Tuolumne River Park was unconstitutional. Three years ago, Nickerson was victorious in a case before the state Supreme Court that involved an undercover sting targeting gay men in the parking lot of an adult bookstore in Mountain View. ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Mora trial to start Mon.

by Cynthia Laird

**A**ccused murderer Edgard Mora is scheduled to go on trial this Monday, July 12 in San Francisco Superior Court on charges that he killed gay city resident Brian Wilmes in March 1998. Mora has pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder and a misdemeanor charge of assault against a witness. The murder charge carries a hate crime enhancement.

Assistant District Attorney Murlene Randle said that while the case is set to start Monday morning, it actually won't get under way until a courtroom has been assigned. Once that happens, there may be motions to be heard before a jury is impaneled.

The trial was originally scheduled to begin in April but was postponed.

Mora was ordered to stand trial following a preliminary hearing last November where Superior Court Judge Ellen Chaitin ruled there was enough evidence for trial. During the preliminary hearing, Wilmes' friend Timothy Carroll testified that Mora shook Wilmes after throwing a single



Murder victim Brian Wilmes

punch that knocked Wilmes to the ground outside of the Loading Dock, a gay bar on Mission Street, on March 12, 1998. Wilmes, 45, died of head injuries two days later. According to the testimony of Carroll, who was with Wilmes at the time of the attack, Mora yelled variations of the phrase "Do you want a piece of me, faggot" four times during the few

minutes leading up to and following Mora's single punch to Wilmes's mouth.

At the preliminary hearing last year, Chaitin said Carroll's testimony about the shaking showed there was "sufficient implied malice" to make Mora stand trial on the murder charge.

Other witnesses, including Mora's girlfriend Silvia Vanegas, testified at the hearing that they did not see Mora shake Wilmes. However, Vanegas also testified she didn't see Mora punch Wilmes as she sat in their car across the street rolling up a window. By the time she looked over, she testified, Mora was standing by Wilmes. The two left the scene and police arrested Mora after tracking down the car.

A homeless man, Michael Gillespie, also witnessed the incident and testified Mora hit him before the alleged attack on Wilmes. Gillespie got the license plate number of the car and turned the information over to police. ▼

The trial starts at 9 a.m. at the Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street, in Dept. 22; it will be moved once a courtroom is

## Suspect held in slaying of Freedom from Alcohol and Drugs Director Russell Scott

by Mark Norby

**S**an Francisco Police Department (SFPD) investigators are holding a male suspect in last month's murder of Russell Scott, a founder of one of the state's larger rehab clinics with a mostly gay male clientele.

Scott's body was found in his blood-splattered home in the Sunset District Friday, June 25. His throat had been slashed and several items were missing from

his vandalized apartment.

The suspect, 37-year-old David McCharles of San Francisco, is believed to be either a past or current resident of one of Scott's 15 Freedom from Alcohol and Drugs (FAD) rehab homes in the city. FAD residents first speculated that McCharles might be linked to Scott's murder when he began boasting that he was able to cash Scott's personal checks, one of which he successfully cashed last week. McCharles has reportedly admitted to Officer Pam

Cunningham that he stole the checks from Scott, but said he did not slash the victim's throat.

Tests will be conducted to determine if McCharles's DNA matches blood evidence found at the victim's home. SFPD interviews with FAD residents are continuing in order to further investigate McCharles's association with Scott. SFPD was unable to comment as to the likelihood that McCharles will be charged with Scott's murder, and it was not known at press time if bail was set for his release. ▼

## Gay couple killed near Redding

by Mark Norby

**A** gay couple from a rural town near Redding in Shasta County were found shot to death in their trailer home Thursday, July 1, and detectives are investigating the possibility that the murders could be an anti-gay hate crime.

The bodies of 50-year-old Gary Matson and 40-year-old Winfield Scott Mowder of Happy Valley were discovered by Matson's brother, Roger Matson, who had last seen the couple the previous evening.

The couple's home suffered no vandalism and there was no obvious struggle before their lives were taken, according to Detective Mark Von Rader of the Shasta County Sheriff's Department.

"We have many, many leads," Von Rader said, "but no obvious motive. But we're not ruling out anything, including that the killings were motivated by hate."

Von Rader said that the only oddity that may prove to be key evidence in the case is the couple's missing car. The copper-colored 1987 Toyota Tercel has two distinctive marks, including a Star of

David that had been scratched into the driver's door by vandals about a month ago, and the roof is dented from someone jumping on it. Neither Matson nor Mowder are Jewish.

Matson and Mowder had a 16-year relationship and helped raise Matson's 19-year-old daughter. Matson was an established horticulturist associated with the Redding Arboretum and Natural Science Museum in Shasta County.

Anyone with information on the killings should call the Shasta County Sheriff's Department at (530) 245-6144. ▼

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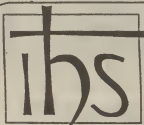
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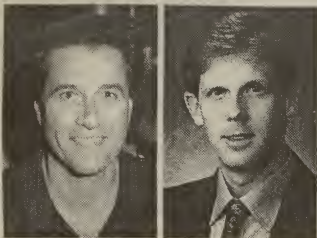
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# Family Restaurants sued for discrimination

by Mark Norby

Apparently "family" has quite a different meaning to Family Restaurants, Inc., a large restaurant conglomerate accused of firing an employee for being openly gay in his work environment. Attorneys Geoffrey Kors and Susanne Scovorn of the Law Offices of Wotman and Kors announced Tuesday, June 29 the filing of a lawsuit against the company and its subsidiary, El Torito Restaurants, alleging sexual orientation discrimination, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and wrongful termination against a gay waiter who was terminated after using a "gay pen" at work.

The suit, filed in Alameda County Superior Court on behalf

of Victor Gaitan, alleges that the victim was discriminated against because he gave a pen to a customer to use when completing their credit card receipt, and the pen had the name of a business that had the words "lesbian" and "gay" in its title. The customers did not complain about his pen — which advertised an introduction service for lesbians and gay men interested in relationships — but the management of El Torito did.

The complaint contends the company policy is discriminatory because it permits wait staff members to use whatever pens they want at work — including those with religious messages — but not pens relating to gay organizations or businesses. The complaint also alleges that Gaitan was terminated just three days after

complaining to his restaurant manager and to the Family Restaurants human resources department about the policy.

"It is simply unbelievable that Family Restaurants and El Torito would fire an employee for using a pen from a gay and lesbian business, while allowing employees to use pens from banks and other businesses," Kors told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The actions set forth in the complaint are clearly homophobic and illegal."

The suit alleges violations of the California Labor Code and seeks compensation for lost wages, emotional distress, and punitive damages. Family Restaurants is an international food service company with subsidiaries including El Torito, La Fiesta,

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## NAAP to celebrate five years of service

by Cynthia Laird

The Native American AIDS Project (NAAP) celebrates five years of service Thursday, July 15 with a free celebration at the Ba'hai Center in San Francisco. NAAP provides HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and support services to the Native American and Alaskan Natives and their families in the Bay Area.

The organization, a sponsored project of the Native American Health Center (NAHC), noted that Native Americans living in San Francisco have the highest AIDS incidence — that is, cases per 100,000 — of any non-white ethnic group in the city. When compounded with other conditions such as homelessness, substance abuse, and general poor health, the

problems require a sustained and culturally sensitive response, like the one provided to over 100 HIV-positive clients each year by NAAP.

The agency provides an important link to case management, treatment advocacy, peer advocacy, mental health, and primary medical care for HIV-positive Natives in the city. NAAP also provides HIV prevention and social support to affected communities. The agency is financially supported by private contributions, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, NAHC, and other groups.

At the upcoming celebration, NAHC Executive Director Martin Waukazo will be joined by Darrell Joe, NAAP program director. Local officials including Mayor Willie Brown and Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano are also expected to be on hand.

Festivities will include traditional singing and drumming by the Eagle Nation Singers; traditional dancers, including Gilbert Blacksmith, Eddie Madril, NAAP's Joe, and Peter Brokenleg; and a youth musical performance by Corey Aranyado.

The community event is co-sponsored by NAHC, the Native American Cultural Center, Friendship House Association of American Indians, and the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center. While the event is free, Joe said donations will be gladly accepted. ▼

The celebration takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. at Ba'hai Center, 170 Valencia Street, at Duboce. To RSVP or for more info, call (415) 522-2460.

## Rocky Horror performance to benefit Berkeley women's center

by Vicky Kolakowski

The East Bay Rocky Horror theatrical group Barely Legal Productions will join with Berkeley's Pyramid Brewery for a special outdoor performance of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* this Saturday, July 10.

All proceeds from the 7 p.m. performance in Pyramid Brewery's parking lot will benefit the Women's Daytime Drop-In Center, to celebrate their 10th anniversary. The Women's Daytime Drop-In

Center is Berkeley's only day-support center specifically for homeless women and children. The West Berkeley center provides hot meals for homeless women and their children, as well as counseling, HIV education, HIV prevention counseling, and assistance in locating employment and housing.

Barely Legal Productions is a prominent group of volunteer performers who bring the cult-classic movie *the Rocky Horror Picture Show* to life. They have performed weekly since October 1995, and presently perform every Friday night at the

Parkway Theater in Oakland.

The performance is part of a series sponsored by Pyramid Brewery. All proceeds of the series benefit local charities. The event takes place at 901 Gilman Street in Berkeley. Admission is a suggested \$5 donation. ▼

For more info about the outdoor performance and the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* cast, contact Brady Ferguson at brady@barelylegal.org or at (510) 872-7477.

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# Study confirms housing is PWAs' biggest unmet need

by Cynthia Laird

An ambitious HIV client needs assessment survey has found that housing is the overwhelming unmet need for people living with AIDS (PWAs) in San Francisco, but when PWAs are directly asked what they need, their most common answer is improved dental care. The study findings, presented to the HIV Health Services Planning Council last Monday, June 28, also revealed that most people are very satisfied with the primary medical care they receive, but a significant number of clients surveyed are less pleased with AIDS service organizations (ASO).

The council will hear a second presentation at its meeting this Monday, July 12.

The assessment is based on both qualitative data – gathered from 194 respondents in 22 focus groups – and quantitative data from 968 PWAs. Both involved clients living in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. The study cost \$180,000.

Steve Lew, with the Support Center for Nonprofit Management, presented the qualitative data from the 22 focus groups. Some groups, such as African-Americans and women, were over-sampled, while others, most notably youth, were under-represented because only five showed up to the focus group. Harder+Company Community Research prepared the quantitative analysis.

When judged independently of each other, the findings in the two individual analyses don't always match. In the quantitative analysis, for instance, dental services edged out housing as the main unmet need, with 38 percent of the 968 people surveyed, or 177, calling dental services inadequate. Housing was second at 29 percent, or 137 people. Home health care was the third highest unmet need, said Michael DeMayo, senior research associate.

When studied quantitatively, however, housing is easily seen to be the most pressing problem. Among African-American survey respondents, 52 percent reported that they are currently homeless. A total of 191 African-Americans, or 44 percent, reported that they are currently on a housing waiting list, and 34 percent reported needing help finding a place to stay in the past four months. Thirteen percent of those respondents received shelter services; 2 percent received permanent housing; 7 percent received assistance locating housing, and 5 percent received transitional housing.

Study facilitators heard horror stories about single resident occupancy (SRO) hotels, from active drug use in hallways, to cockroach and rat-infested living quarters. For some clients, there's also a difficulty in moving often; because they have no storage facility, they often lose their possessions when they have to move.

According to the quantitative summary, 63 percent of people with an AIDS diagnosis are currently taking HIV/AIDS medications, although women are less likely to be taking medications than male or transgender clients, DeMayo said.

Lew said that regardless of HIV treatment, clients in the qualitative

focus group studies report "doing well," and doing better than previous periods in their infection, and reported strong feelings for their medical providers. "It was overwhelming, in every group, reports of satisfaction with medical care," Lew said. "Many people 'love' their medical providers."

Most physical problems reported were related to side effects from the new therapies. Lew acknowledged that the focus group results might be skewed because people who were feeling good were able to attend the focus group meetings.

"Most client needs have been met," he said. "There's not a high level of unmet needs. The notable exception is housing."

Employment issues also figured prominently, with clients in the focus groups commenting about their fears of returning to work. The most common obstacle was fear of losing benefits, but



Steve Lew

clients also mentioned other fears including discrimination and not being able to work a full day.

Another interesting finding

from the focus groups was the perception among some heterosexuals and people of color that services were not sensitive enough to them, and geared primarily toward gay men. "Some people of color and heterosexuals perceive some agencies as discriminatory," Lew said, adding that immigrants are less likely to access services because of fears they'll be reported to immigration officials.

Other complaints about ASOs included mainly a lack of respect, a high level of bureaucracy, a lack of cultural diversity among staff, insensitivity to different cultures, turf issues between organizations, a lack of empathy, and slips in confidentiality. ▼

The HIV Health Services Planning Council meets Monday, July 12, in room 330A of the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Ave., from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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## OPEN FORUM

## Dogma bites

A couple of very unfunny things happened on the way home from church this week: according to news reports, an Illinois man named Benjamin Smith, 21, spent several days driving around the midwest in his battered old car and shooting his shiny new gun at people whose very existence displeased him.

Smith fired at Asian-Americans, African-Americans, and Jews, killing two and wounding at least nine others. He did not know his victims, but he had been led to believe that people like that, people who were not born Caucasian, were "mud races" and were therefore inferior to him and all other whites. Evidence strongly contradicts that point of view, but Smith got his information from a church pulpit and therefore believed it.

Smith belonged to a church — and we use that word as loosely as the Internal Revenue Service interprets it — called the "World Church of the Creator," which is built on that rabid dogma about "mud races" and the presumption that "what is good for the white race is good for the world." That so-called religion so poisoned his mind that he was able, among other heinous acts, to drive to a more conventional church and shoot an Asian man to death in front of other worshippers.

The founder of the World Church of the Creator is an excruciatingly unwatchable white isolationist named Matt Hale who nevertheless was invited to appear on several television shows over the weekend. As is usually the case with deluded sociopaths who think they have an important message, Hale gladly accepted the invitations and appeared wherever he could, displayed a middling talent as a fiddler (apparently he has a degree of some sort in music) and no talent whatsoever as a prophet of God or revolutionary thinker.

Hale said he was sad that Smith ultimately killed himself while eluding police in a stolen vehicle, but refused to acknowledge that there was anything sad about people of color being randomly slaughtered while walking down the street with their kids or visiting a house of worship where most of the worshippers were Asian. No remorse; none.

Hale also refused to accept responsibility for the killings, saying that although he had called for a "holy war" against people who weren't just like him (which, for the

record, is a man nearly 30 years old who lives in his parents' home and uses an Israeli flag as a doormat) he had also urged them to stay within the law.

"Blaming me for this," he said, "is like blaming the pope for the shooting of abortion providers."

It was the only time we agreed with him, and in that case we agreed wholeheartedly.

When people who lead religions call for holy wars against other people, they must be held accountable for the wartime casualties. It's true that Pope John Paul is less obviously culpable than Hale for the killings that are carried out in the name of his doctrine, but only because the system of getting his message out is more sophisticated. What makes the connection murkier is the way the leaders of larger religions — Catholicism is only one of many horrific examples — have layers and layers of underlings to pass along the word, incite the parishioners, and keep the flames of hatred alive.

To use another example, this week the Mormon church threw itself into the debate

over same-sex marriage here in California. All services included the reading of a letter on the subject, framing the issue as a significant "moral choice," and nearly three-quarters of a million Mormons across the state were asked to contribute time and money to an effort to keep our relationships illegal.

Whether it's a small-time operation out of an Illinois basement rec room or a gigantic operation based in Salt Lake City, Tehran, or Vatican City, it is truly sickening to hear pulpits used to preach that some of the world's people are worse than others.

And now that religion and politics are inexorably mixed here in America, we'd like to mention a few other high priests of hatred: Senator Trent Lott and Representative Bob Barr (who spoke at the CoCC, a white isolationist organization with nearly the same acronym as Hale's WCoC), Patrick Buchanan (remember his call for a war at the Republican convention in Houston?), and has-been loser Pete Wilson all come to mind, but there are many more.

How many Benjamin Smiths must they create before they are stopped? ▼



## Editorial



## Moving beyond pride

by Christopher Ott

June was observed as gay pride month throughout the country, and there was a lot to celebrate. We've had significant victories over the last several years, and, slowly but surely, anti-gay prejudice has begun to lose ground. But it's also important to ask why we've run into so many serious setbacks:

- More and more of us feel safe to come out of the closet, but why is there a rising tide of anti-gay violence, reflected most brutally in hate crimes like the murder of Matthew Shepard?

- A few states and municipalities have passed gay-equality laws, but why has opposition to these laws become a rallying point for social conservatives?

- Greater numbers of straight people are willing to stand up to anti-gay prejudice, but why do they sometimes suffer for it? Why can even straight people — especially young people — be harassed (or worse) just on the suspicion that they might be gay?

- Coverage of gay issues in the media is probably more even-handed than it has ever been, but why is it still so common for political and religious leaders to make outrageous and inflammatory statements about gay issues, like Pat Robertson's warning last year that Orlando might be destroyed by a meteorite as a punishment for its pride celebration?

There have been a lot of attempts to explain the way we seem to take one step back for almost every step we take forward, but

few have examined the role that the slogan "gay pride" may be playing in this. The pride concept has served us well until now by counteracting the shame of the closet, but it also has drawbacks. The problem with pride is that it doesn't state clearly what the gay-rights movement is really all about: equal legal and social treatment for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. The rallying cry of pride may even have helped to provoke a backlash against gay equality.

Practically speaking, the "gay pride" slogan doesn't reach people who aren't already pretty comfortable about the facts of sexual orientation. As homophobes hear it, the language of gay pride reinforces the idea that gay people are fundamentally different. In everyday speech, people use the word "pride" to talk about things which they believe are special, extraordinary and exclusive. Talking too much about pride, therefore, may be counterproductive. Gay people base our claim to civil rights on the fact that our sexual orientation and our relationships are no different — no more worthy of shame or pride — than anyone else's.

Endless declarations about pride may actually help reinforce negative assumptions. Talking too much about pride may give the impression that we have something to prove, and can suggest that we still can't quite put the shame of the closet behind us.

A better alternative to the "gay pride" slogan is "gay equality." What we need more

than anything is to emphasize that all of us who are gay are much more similar to straight people than we are different.

That's not to say that we are "just like them" or should try to "assimilate." We are different, and there are things about sexuality (and life in general) that we tend to understand better than straight people. The point, however, is that these differences don't matter in terms of civil rights. A new slogan like "gay equality" would help to make this clear. It's time for the separatism and exclusiveness which are reinforced by the slogan "gay pride" to end.

We and our supporters can no longer limit ourselves to simply countering arguments about "family values" with declarations of pride. We need to move beyond simplistic arguments that require us to justify ourselves in terms of pride, because pride is

not the point. The differences between gays and straights don't matter in any way that is worthy of discomfort, unequal legal treatment, or hostility. In the most fundamental human ways, gay people are much more similar to straights than we are different, and as a group we have nothing more or less to be proud of than anyone else. ▼

Christopher Ott is the publisher of *Straight Answers* (<http://www.sipu.com/sa>), a website devoted to changing the terms of debate over sexual orientation.



## Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Jesse the racist

Many thanks to Frameline for another wonderful film festival this year. We want to comment, however, on one thing that troubled us, and that is the promotional film for the 23rd Annual Festival, *Jesse Goes to Heaven*. We acknowledge it is well made and clever, but it misses one big point: Jesse Helms is not only a queer hater, he's also a racist. Where were the people of color? Aren't they in heaven too? Jesse Helms got his start in politics as a segregationist, and has maintained a 100 percent racist voting record throughout his career, on both domestic and international issues. He's been race baiting for the last 50 years the way he queer baits today.

We raise this point as one of strategy, and not just "political correctness," in this year of "The Color of Sex." Do or don't we want to get rid of Jesse Helms and the attitudes he represents? If we do, there's a slogan that applies, "Unite the many to defeat the few." Jesse Helms is the scourge not only of white lesbians and gay men, but of much of the world. That wasn't represented in any way in *Jesse Goes to Heaven*. The makers lost a chance to represent the rainbow of colors queer people come in, as well as a chance to build strategic alliances for the LGBT movement with other people damaged by the hatred of Jesse Helms. In *Jesse Goes to Heaven*, sex came in the same color this year it does every other year.

Loretta Harris  
Charlie Hinton  
Kris Rodriguez  
San Francisco

## Silent no more

Your editorial "Sounds of silence" [June 24] brought to mind the many times in my life when I, or a friend, was silent and should not have been. Such as: the night I was a spectator at the Stonewall brouhaha and did not take part; the following June when the first Gay Pride march took place in New York, which I happened to see with my parents who were in town for the day but did not have the guts to tell them I should be marching in that parade; the day the first of my friends died of AIDS but made sure it wasn't listed on his death certificate; all the hundreds of times when I should have written a letter to a representative to defend myself and those I love and didn't—silence can be a very damning thing!

I have only recently moved to the San Francisco area and was looking forward to "one of the truly spectacular Gay Pride Celebrations of this nation," but a family affair in Philadelphia kept me away. I am blessed with the most wonderful, supportive, and understanding family in the world who reaffirmed that support at every opportunity during the weekend, just as they did when my first lover died, and when I took a new lover—all because, at one point, I broke my silence and shared my life with them. So in a way I guess I did witness "one of the truly spectacular Gay Pride Celebrations of this nation."

Ron Schmoltze  
Daly City, CA

## Term of no endearment

Every now and then I see in print "The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender something-or-other." I'm sorry but it just isn't right. It should be The Gay Parade on Gay Day. I'm naturally curious how a panel of specialists thought it all through, what would be the most "correct" term, and came up with this cumbersome and silly name. I hope one of the experts with the inside scoop will read this and tell me.

First of all, there's probably a good reason why "lesbian" comes first when it was always "Gay Day" before. Some of my guesses are: lesbians are more oppressed and they are sensitive about it and we are all being sensitive about them being sensitive; lesbians are bullies and they wanted to be first; any civilized person knows "ladies go first." Can't "gay" apply to both women and men? Ellen called herself gay for months. It wasn't until later that she said "lesbian." It couldn't be for historical reasons because, as I recall, didn't gay men in San Francisco originate the holiday, with lesbians not appearing in equal numbers until much later? Don't lesbians have a private parade? Why is it appropriate for "lesbian" to appear first on the title of a second parade? If we shorten the name of the day, is "Lesbian Day" an appropriate nickname?

Perhaps "Sexual Minorities Day/Parade" would be best. Though people experiencing gender dysphoria may be gay, the choice to change gender means a rejection of same-sex relations. They seem content to live quietly as the gender of their choice, undetected, so gayness is not an issue. Bisexuals could be happy celebrating their gayness on Gay Day. I don't see the day as an occasion to celebrate anything straight.

After all is said and done, the name that's easiest to remember and say and the most popular will stand the test of time.

Larry Schmidt  
Oakland, CA

## Jesse the jerk

As an ex-Minnesotan, I appreciated Wayne Friday's comments in the June 10 B.A.R. about Jesse Ventura.

I think Jesse "the Jerk" should govern more than promoting himself.

Paul Loida  
Oakland, CA

## We'll drink to that!

On behalf of the thousands of people living with HIV/AIDS served by Positive Resource Center each year, I want to salute the Lone Star Saloon and Supervisor Mark Leno for leading the charge against the arbitrary crackdown on San Francisco beer busts by the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC).

Positive Resource Center programs receive at least \$15,000 a year from beverage benefits held at bars such as the Lone Star, the Edge, Daddy's, and the Eagle Tavern. These funds provide vital benefits counseling and employment services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

I am proud that the community's unified outrage against ABC's arbitrary crackdown has resulted in a new, standardized policy that will allow beverage benefits to continue to provide much needed funds for our community.

Ken Bukowski  
Executive Director, Positive Resource

## ... We'll drink to this, too ...

Happy 35th birthday to the Stud Bar! Thousands and thousands of us here have enjoyed many wild, wild nights at this legendary hangout.

Thanks to Michael, Fiesta, and a great staff. The Stud is still fabulous and the coolest.

We're lucky!

Edweirdo  
San Francisco

## Mailstrom

## ... And we'll smoke to this!

John Connelly's claim of hypocritical behavior by ACT UP/San Francisco for selling pot because it is "proven to suppress the immune system" is not supported by any science and seems fueled by a reefer madness-like sentiment. Misconceptions about pot are common and rooted in confusion with cigarettes which contain toxic tar and nicotine not contained in pot joints. According to the U.S. Government's National Institute on Drug Abuse's Bureau of Mortality Statistics, tobacco cigarettes kill over 400,000 Americans yearly, followed by alcohol with over 100,000 deaths. Even aspirin makes the list with 500 related deaths a year. Marijuana was at the bottom of the list with zero deaths attributed to pot use.

Additionally, a study from UCLA's Schools of Medicine and Public Health attributed no difference in the lungs of non pot-smokers versus those of long term pot users. The study concludes: "findings from the long-term study of heavy habitual marijuana smokers argue against the concept that continuing heavy use of marijuana is a significant risk factor for the development of chronic lung disease...Neither the continuing nor the intermittent marijuana smokers exhibited any significantly different rates in decline in lung function as compared with those individuals who never smoked marijuana. No differences were noted between even quite heavy marijuana smoking and nonsmoking of marijuana." (*American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* Vol. 155, No. 1, 01 1997; 141-148) Studies are also being conducted to now see if a puff on a joint won't actually stimulate the human immune system.

ACT UP/SF bravely opened a pot dispensary when the feds were closing clubs down, and Dan Lungren was prosecuting their staffs. We are the only AIDS group which makes its finances available to the general public. (Every Monday at 7:30 p.m. 1884 Market Street.)

Connelly blames his boyfriend's deterioration on HIV and pot while also stating that for 15 years his boyfriend "has been a practicing alcoholic, speed freak" and used "drugs in the AIDS arsenal." What evidence does he have that these alone aren't sufficient to cause the immune decline being experienced? Booze, speed, toxic chemotherapy, and a belief that you are going to die is more than enough to kill you. Why blame it on a joint, or worse, a virus no one can isolate?

What the queer community needs is an honest evaluation of important questions such as the potential long term toxic effects of pot, and HIV as the sole and sufficient cause of AIDS. What we don't need is irrational knee-jerk responses rooted in fear and misinformation. Connelly and others like him who gave up pot and sex in the early 1980s need to get high, get fucked, and then get educated.

Michael Bellefontaine  
Karl Goldman  
ACT UP/San Francisco

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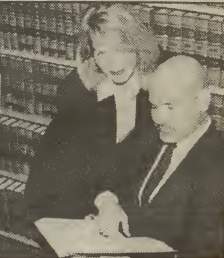
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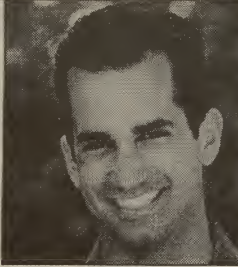
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### Unmentioned, yet impugned

Since the fall of 1996 when Mayor Willie Brown torpedoed an understanding reached between then-Public Health Director Sandra Hernandez and Supervisor Tom Ammiano to hold public hearings on licensing "sex clubs," your reporter has provided accurate accounts of most key episodes of this genuinely sexy civic drama which continues to unfold. However, your report of last month's Health Commission meeting [June 24] falls a little short.

For starters, if mentioning that the HIV Prevention Planning Council voted twice against the sex club regulations, it might be well to mention that both the Milk Club and the LGBT Advisory Committee to the Human Rights Commission also rejected them. Secondly, it is only true "that both sides of the debate acknowledge that definitive scientific evidence does not exist" in the sense that both sides may not regard scientific knowledge as definitive. From the beginning the award-winning study of gay men's behavior in Belgian saunas, published by one American and two Belgian academics, has been central to the defense of bathhouses. To imply that the Milk Club, HRC Advisory Committee and HPPC voted as they did - unanimously in the case of the Milk Club and the HRC Advisory Committee - without any rational or empirical basis impugns their integrity and discredits their dedication. The evidence for bathhouse "closure" 15 years ago was at best only anecdotal, but the evidence for reopening now is more than equivocal.

Finally, to call the commission's discussion "minimal" verges on exaggeration. The commission discussed the sex club regulations not at all, perhaps only President Lee Ann Monfredini even mentioning them, and there was certainly no debate about grounds for the health director's judgment, only rubber-stamping. If the Health Commission will not hold hearings, then it is time the Supervisors' Health and Environment Committee did. Contrary to Monfredini's *Chronicle* quote, the sex club regulations are Health Department edict, not "existing law."

Reid Pierre Condit  
San Francisco

### Keeping watch on 'Health Watch'

I saw an ad in the *Bay Area Reporter* concerning a ballot initiative drive to reopen the gay bathhouses in San Francisco conducted by "Health Watch." Like many gays in San Francisco I'm strongly opposed to the reopening of the gay bathhouses.

Over the years I have seen many friends die of AIDS. Most of the first people I knew who died of AIDS were those who frequently went to the gay bathhouses where unsafe sex was the order of the day. The notion that somehow things will be different is difficult to imagine.

The idea that bathhouses are an ideal place for safe sex education is hilarious. Talking with friends who live in cities where there are still gay bathhouses such "education" efforts are at best a bad joke. I do not remember the HotHouse, HardBall Express, Rich Street Baths, The Boot Camp, or the Sutor Baths ever doing any sort of safe sex education efforts nor contributing much of anything to the gay community.

Why is "Health Watch" pursuing this ballot initiative when there isn't unified support for reopening the baths among the gay community much less the straight community? I don't know anyone who supports this initiative. There are certainly more important issues for the gay community in San Francisco than reopening bathhouses.

One question that comes to mind is who is funding "Health Watch," the ballot initiative gathering process, and full page ads in the *B.A.R.*? Could it possibly be people who want to make "big bucks" opening bathhouses? I have not seen any benefits or solutions for contributions to this effort and I certainly hope that none of that contributions I've made to AIDS prevention groups is going to "Health Watch."

I have also written a letter to Dr. Mitchell Katz at the DPH expressing my support for his stand against reopening the gay baths.

Jim Ellingsen  
San Francisco

### Baths are for cleanliness

I always thought of Oz as a real progressive, hip, and advanced state of livelihood. But to regress into the ambivalence of re-opening the bathhouses is perplexing. We all know of our responsibilities. A bathhouse provides a clean facility, condoms, literature on safe sex, privacy (one-on-one) and fun. What's wrong with a safe and clean environment?

In my travels to European bathhouses in Amsterdam and Munich, not only were bathhouses equipped with Jacuzzi, saunas, etc., but a bar and dance floor. What a fucktastic time!!!

Cleanliness and responsibility should be the only requisites to opening the baths. Most of us are intelligent men and know of repercussions. Open 'em.

Art Alcantar  
San Francisco

### It's been a trial

I wish to deeply thank the *Bay Area Reporter* for covering all the details of my partner Lou Pearson's death and subsequent trial [of convicted killer Christopher McCoy]. Your ceaseless efforts have helped me transit through the past year, reminding me of my own worth.

Christopher Tomm  
Boulder Creek, CA

### Getting someone's (scape) goat

I suspect that Trevor Hailey [Mailstrom, June 17] saw what she wanted to see, as did the others who complained to her about the temporary youth shelter. That is not surprising given her vocal support of the merchants group's "Create Change, Don't Hand It Out" campaign. The fact that the shelter was in operation made it a convenient scapegoat.

Every Thursday afternoon since September I have walked with a class of 20 second graders from Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy to their gym class at the Eureka Valley Rec Center (EVRC). There have always been people hanging out at the Rec Center. To say that the problem of young people hanging out at the center started with or was caused by the youth shelter is simply untrue.

I have found that a polite "Excuse me" always got people to move if they were in my way. If parents were afraid to drop off their children for after school activity and senior citizens were afraid to come to the center that was a result of fear on their part, not the result of any incident involving users of the shelter. A fear that was reinforced by any interaction they may have had with Trevor Hailey.

The second night the shelter was opened I asked a young man I encountered on the street if he knew about the shelter. He said to me, "I'm 25. I'm to old." Was he among the many older participants Trevor mentions in her letter?

I would be interested in knowing how she concluded that many of the people who used the shelter weren't gay or lesbian. Since sexual orientation is a protected class under San Francisco's human rights law is it legal to even ask the question? I think what was promised was a safe space for gay and lesbian youth, not that heterosexual youth would be discriminated against.

It is my understanding that the Parks and Recreation Department had already put EVRC on its list for renovations long before its use as a shelter, but money that had been allocated for needed renovations was used by the mayor for another project.

Trevor Hailey is correct that we need to demand more from our elected officials. We need to demand full funding for the renovations at EVRC and opening of a permanent youth shelter. We also need less scapegoating of the homeless and those who try to provide services for them.

Bill Wilson  
San Francisco

### All hail the Republic

We live in a time of increasing violence against members of the GLBT and other minority communities. We live in a time of increasing militancy by the religious right and white supremacists. We live under increasing censorship and erosion of individual civil liberties by forces on both the left and the right. We live under a government so wrapped up in bureaucracy and buried under special interest pork that it does not hear the true voices of the people. We live in a society where the people with sense have no power and the people with power have no sense. We live in a society where no one is allowed to mind his/her own business. But there is a solution.

We are a small but growing group of people who seek to form our own sovereign nation, wherein the government is the servant of the people and not their master, where the first guaranteed right is the right to be left alone, and where everyone lives under a laissez-faire system in true freedom, peace, and security. No gay-bashings, no racial hate crimes, no censorship, no bedroom regulation, no exorbitant taxes.

We have tentatively named our alternative community the Republic of Montsegur and seek to establish it on some island or similar venue, where we can live our own lives without interference or harassment. We seek other like-minded individuals of all nationalities, races, genders, and sexual orientations, who seek to live in peace and liberty and wish to join us in our endeavors.

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James Moore  
The Republic of Montsegur

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## POLITICS

# George Bush, spinster

by Wayne Friday

It all began, as things in politics frequently do, with a leak of an announcement of a report: When the **George "Dubya" Bush**-for-president operatives told reporters during a California campaign blitz early last week that they would soon report a presidential war chest of a record \$21 million (still with me?) only to have the candidate himself dramatically announce two days later that the campaign had instead taken in a stunning \$36 million – including \$5 million in this state alone – the campaign *intentionally* released the lower figures so Bush's announcement would get an even bigger spin the second time around.

And it worked. Even though many national reporters feel the Bush campaign purposely misled them by announcing the lower figure, headlines across the country still screamed "Bush doubles the take of all other GOP candidates" and "Republican George W. easily outpaces Democrat **Al Gore** in fundraising." Headline stories are very much a part of any political campaign, so getting that second "spin" on a story always beats settling for only one.

With George W. the winner in the campaign cash race – from high-tech executives, D.C. lobbyists, and fellow wealthy Republicans (all of whom he will have to repay somehow, should he make it to the White House) – it's little wonder that he in particular, and the Republican Party in general, want little to do with campaign finance reform either this year or next.

To be sure, Bush spent most of his time with millionaires on his three-day trip through California last week, but he also visited a heavily Hispanic area of Los Angeles, switching from Spanish to English, according to what the crowd looked like. Whenever possible he pitches himself to many of the voters GOP candidates often write off to Democrats, styling himself as a "compassionate conservative" (sic). That apparently is in contrast to Republicans in California who are best known for fighting to end affirmative action, bilingual education, and services to illegal immigrants – but upon examination the differences can be hard to spot.

Indeed, Bush was asked about a number of hot-button ethnic issues: on Proposition 209, the 1996 ballot initiative that abolished affirmative action in state hiring, education and contracting, he said, "I support the spirit of no quotas" and no preferences, and then said he is against the spirit (yes, he likes the word "spirit," particularly when other words fail him) of Proposition 187, the 1994 California initiative ending most state services to illegal immigrants. (When asked about it a few years ago, he refused to state a position on it.) On bilingual education, which was abolished here in a recent initiative, Bush has said he judges a program by whether or not it works, adding "I support programs that teach people how to speak English."

Bush knows the Latino vote in California grew from 8 percent in 1988 to 16 percent in 1998, and is growing daily. He also knows Re-

publicans like **Pete Wilson** and **Dan Lungren** have alienated the Hispanic vote and that he must change the perception that it's a party of xenophobic racists if he is to carry the state against Gore in 2000. As state Senator **Jim Brulte** (R-Rancho Cucamonga), a Bush supporter, said, "Republicans in California start out in a deep hole. This is a state that is clearly trending more Democratic." A look at the political landscape shows the truth of that remark: Democrats carried the state for Clinton in 1992 and 1996, and handily won last year's contests for both governor and U.S. senator. Moreover, a recent Field Poll reveals that Californians now currently have a favorable opinion of Democrats overall 58 to 43 percent, and an unfavorable opinion of state Republicans by 49 to 43 percent.

As to win the White House once he gets **Pat Buchanan**, **Elizabeth**

**Dole**, **Dan Quayle**, **Gary Bauer**, **Steve Forbes**, and particularly **John McCain** off his back, he apparently outlined his plans to some big-buck California donors recently and it reportedly went something like this. Bush feels he can carry the usual Republican states, many in the south and midwest, but worries somewhat about big states like New York and New Jersey; there is even some talk now of pushing Dole aside and picking New Jersey Governor **Christine Whitman** as his running mate if the GOP feels by July 2000 convention time that they need a woman on the ticket. Florida, where Bush's brother controls the party, should be no problem; Texas will go to Bush easily; he has an at least even chance in important states like Michigan, Ohio, and Illinois; so "that leaves California," as "W" himself says.

"California is clearly the battleground," said GOP strategist **George Gorton** last week, adding that "both parties need to work this state hard."

Indeed, the road to the White House in 2000 is running straight through our state, with its once irrelevant primary now coming right on the heels of New Hampshire's and the Iowa caucuses. California is poised to play an enormous role in picking the GOP and Democratic nominees, and in a potential tight general election race, it stands to be the most coveted state, with its important 54 electoral votes – one-fifth of all needed to win the presidency. And despite polls showing Bush running even with Gore in the state, Republicans know that

with the powerful **Gray Davis** Democratic Party machine, plus the fact that popular U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein**'s name will be on the ticket next year, any Republican candidate will have trouble carrying the state.

Still, it would seem the optimistic Bush is already trying on the chief executive's title: last week, he said as he was speaking to 400 high-tech industry leaders in Palo Alto, "This is not my first trip to this incredible land called Silicon Valley, but it's my first trip as president." (Not so fast, George; you still have a lot of pitfalls ahead of you. For one thing, that notorious photo from your college days that allegedly shows you dancing wildly on a bar – and, according to some, flashing the Bush tush – is sure to pop up before long.)

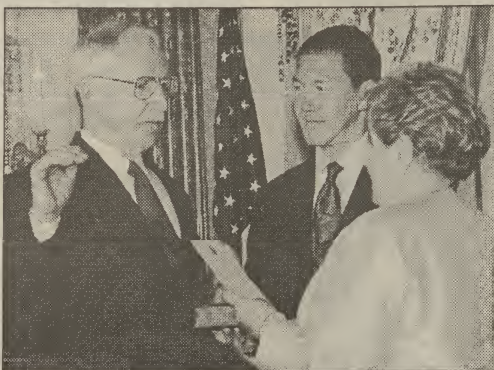
If that's not enough, the word out of New Jersey is that **Forbes**, who spent \$37 million of his own money on his losing 1996 effort, will spend enough this election to make "Dubya" look like a pauper. Already attacking Bush as the "candidate of the Washington lobbyists," **Forbes**, the new darling of the religious right (move over **Buchanan**, **Bauer**, and **Quayle**) picked up the endorsement this week of **Paul Weyrich**, the conservative leader who runs the Free Congress Foundation, the right wing think tank, and is the man who actually coined the phrase "moral majority." However, **Weyrich** also said that if **Forbes** loses the GOP nomination, and New Hampshire GOP Senator **Bob Smith** (another long shot Republican hopeful) bolts the GOP and runs as an "Independent" in 2000, **Weyrich** and his supporters would then join **Smith** against the GOP nominee.

And does Utah Senator **Orrin Hatch**, who constantly touts his "close friendship" with Senator **Ted Kennedy** (he was Kennedy's best man at Ted's second wedding) really think he has a shot at the GOP nomination or is he just in this to help **Buchanan**, **Dole**, et al., slow down **George W.**?

Meanwhile, on the Democratic side, there's not much to report except that Nebraska's **Bob Kerrey** joined Minnesota's **Paul Wellstone** this week in becoming the only senators to endorse **Bill Bradley** for their party's presidential nomination.

## Politics and people

I couldn't make it to the D.C. swearing in of our own **James Hormel** (but thanks for the invite, Your Excellency) so let me close with the heartiest congrats and God Speed in your new duties Mr. Ambassador. We are all proud and as Senator **Feinstein** said at the ceremony, "In Jim's appointment, we open one of the last doors." ▼



James Hormel, partner Timothy Wu, and Madeleine Albright



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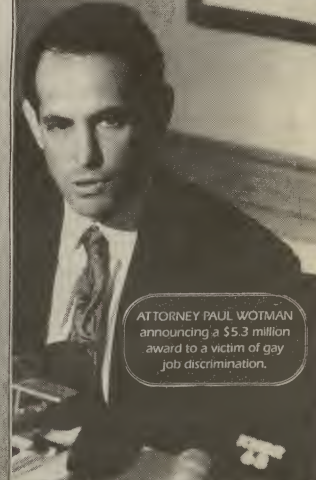
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## Games exes play

by Nancy Boutillier

Last week, the streets of San Francisco were flooded with wonderful shows of bare skin, wild body art, outrageous outfits, radical hair styles, encouraging crowds, and free spirited fun of all sorts.

No, not the Gay Pride celebration. The X-Games were in town!

You know, Xtreme Sports, sports too cool to begin with a vowel. The sporting choice of athletes who don't want to conform to traditional hierarchies of the locker room, who want to push the boundaries of conventional competition, who prefer to be known as stoners rather than jocks.

The X-Games could be named "big boys on their childhood toys," or "Spills and Thrills," as the events included street lugging on skateboards as well as vertical skateboarding in a ramped area, stunt riding on those tiny bicycles, and, one of my favorites, not sky diving - as that would be too down-to-earth for these folks - but sky surfing.

There was even a snowboarding "Big Air" competition, complete with its own traveling 110-foot ramp and snowmaking machines, so even if the athletes don't go to extremes, you can count on the promoters to do so, namely cable sports station ESPN.

I know it can be cold during a San Francisco summer, but snow? It was a little disorienting, having both the Pride Celebration and the X-Games going on all around town. Perhaps I took in too many gas fumes trying to get close to the Dykes on Bikes. Maybe it was all those X-Games skater boys with dyke haircuts and Club Q fashions flipping themselves off of ramps that had me wondering which end was up.

But everything started to blur for me. I dreamt that Harry Hay and Tinky Winky were spinning out of an airplane on snowboards. I imagined all those wonderful P-Flaggers skateboarding their way down Market Street. And I swear I saw one of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence scampering up the speed climbing wall at Pier 30/32.

It could have been a simple case of sensory overload brought on by the heat and the beat of all the dance music, but whatever it was, it swept me away ... into a cyclone, sliding down a rabbit hole, slipping through the mirror, flown to Never Never Land ...

And when I arrived, it all seemed vaguely familiar - people preparing for competition, warming up and stretching their limbs.



There were dozens of women with handsome jaw lines and strong throwing arms. Men limbered up without a macho pose. And there was open talk of homosexuality.

Was this the Gay Games?

There was open talk of homosexuality, yes, but not honest talk. I surveyed my surroundings - too much make-up, but not on the men.

I listened to the snippets of conversation around me, catching phrases like "errant ways," "lifestyle," and "recruited."

I looked down to my canine companion and spoke: "No, Toto, I don't think we're in Oz anymore ... this must be Kansas!"

If this wasn't Kansas, well it might as well have been. I had arrived at the Ex-Gay Games!

You know, Ex-Gays, the ones who make a point of renouncing their past gaiety, who actively work to unquicker others, who see themselves in a kind of recovery, and who feel the need to recruit us back to their heterosexual lifestyle.

The Opening Ceremonies of the Ex-Gay Games had lots of revisionist history and very few fireworks. A high standing politician addressed the crowd and promised to let Ex-Gays serve in the military. He then insisted that he hadn't inhaled.

The theme of this year's Ex-Gay Games was "Comfort in Conformity." After the playing of the national anthem, a band called Reversal of Fortune got everyone dancing to the disco hit "Turn the Beat Around." Rumor has it that AC/DC turned down the gig.

Instead of X-Games favorite "Aggressive In-line Skating," the Ex-Gay Games featured a more

basic version of getting In-Line and conforming to gender and sex stereotypes. For the women, there was a snowboarding "Big Hair" show while men competed in events that tested their prowess in both chivalry and chauvinism. On the tennis courts, while few signed up for the Singles competition, the Mixed Up Doubles draw was oversubscribed. And, as always, Distance Running Away was one of the most popular events.

The Ex-Gay Decathlon, the most grueling of the Ex-Gay Games, featured rounds of Basic Denial, Defensiveness, Deep Rationalization, Urban Tight-Rope Walking, Emotional Yo-Yo Stunts, Skating on Thin Ice, Following Suit, Toting the Mark, Reacclimating, and Swimming with the Stream.

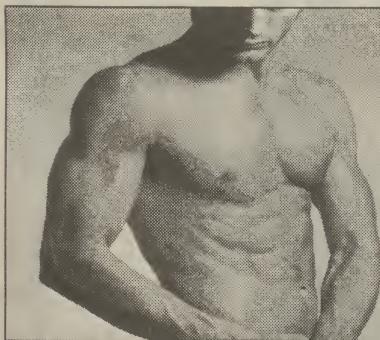
All participants received medals marked with the Ex-Gay Games motto - "I came. I saw. I felt shame and turned back."

The gold medal winner in the Parent Pleasing competition went to last year's bronze medalist, former Lesbian Avenger Iva Womb. To earn the bronze in last year's event, Mrs. Womb married her high school prom date. This year she earned a perfect score of 10 for producing not one grandchild, but a pair of twins, and for demonstrating her ability to diaper them simultaneously while her husband completed the day's crossword puzzle.

Maya Way, from Dependence, Missouri, was leading in the Speed Scripture Quoting competition until she tripped over the lines "Judge not that ye be not judged." The eventual winner of the event was Noah Yorallines.

I stumbled upon the Speech and Rhetoric events just as chaos was breaking loose. Apparently, the judges had awarded the gold medal to a competitor arguing

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# Lesbophobic tennis mom plagues Wimbledon

by Bradley David

In case you were on another planet last week, there was a major news story out of England, where an 18-year-old biracial American tennis phenom named Alexandra Stevenson made history as the first female player ever to fight her way through three rounds of qualifying matches into the main draw of Wimbledon and then go all the way to the semifinals of the world's most prestigious tournament. But it wasn't Stevenson's powerful serve-and-volley game that made international headlines — it was the stunning confirmation, after initial denials from all sides, that Stevenson's biological father is basketball great Julius "Dr. J." Erving. Unfortunately, the media frenzy surrounding her mysterious parentage overshadowed controversial remarks made by Stevenson's mother that she fears the advances of predatory lesbians on the pro tour towards her daughter.

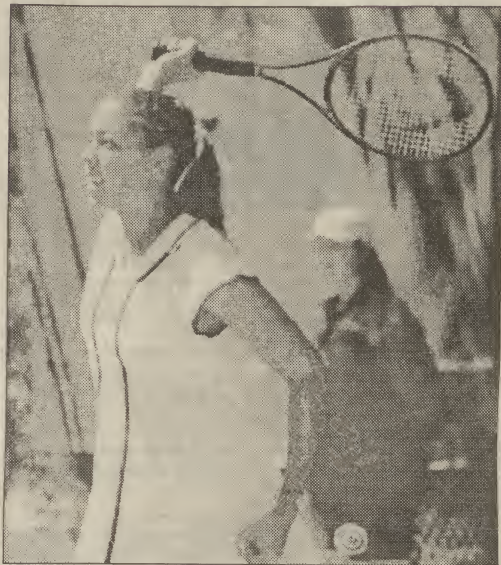
According to the Associated Press, Samantha Stevenson (who, incidentally, is Caucasian) told a group of reporters last week that she doesn't like to leave her daughter alone in the locker room.

"It's an absolute jungle," she was quoted as saying. "A big, bad place. It just isn't a normal place for a young girl. As a mother, I want to make sure she's okay. The biggest threat to girls of her age are the other girls on the tour. She's a real teenager and I'm not going to let anything happen to her. If girls like her don't have a support system, they can be led down the wrong path."

## Oklahoma City bombshell

My first encounter with Alexandra Stevenson came in March of this year while covering a women's pro tournament in Oklahoma City. I had never heard of her and was stunned to witness the 6 foot 1 inch Californian's booming serve and fierce one-handed backhand (a rarity among today's players).

Quickly scanning the information about Stevenson in the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) media guide, I let out an audible, "Yikes!" as I read that Stevenson considers Margaret Court her role model "because of her Grand Slams and her family values." Court, the former Australian tennis champion-turned-



Alexandra Stevenson

evangelist (she now travels Australia in a mobile home with her own fundamentalist Christian ministry), made headlines in 1990 when she proclaimed that tennis star Martina Navratilova, who had just won her record ninth Wimbledon title, was not a good role model for young women because she is a lesbian.

Stevenson refused to comment on her mother's remarks last week, except to read a prepared statement at a post-match press conference: "In America, we have freedom of speech, as you do in England. My mother merely expressed our family's view of life and she's right. Life on tour is quite tough..."

This is not the first time the parent of a player has created a bugaboo around the issue of lesbianism in the sport. The burly Italian-American father of Jennifer Capriati, the promising young player who eventually self-destructed and was arrested for drugs, expressed similar concerns in a sensationalist 1990 *National Enquirer* cover story.

## Five percent lesbian?

As a journalist who has been around women's pro tennis for 20 years, I can say unequivocally that the notion of predatory lesbians on the tour is nothing more than homophobic paranoia.

First of all, the public would be shocked to know how few of the players are lesbian. Several years ago, in an interview with the gay magazine *The Advocate*, Navratilova estimated that maybe

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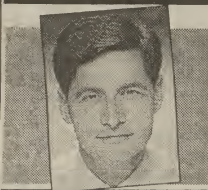
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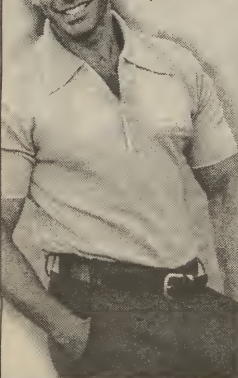
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# God taken in for mental evaluation

by Jane Warner  
and Ron McGlashan

Friday, July 2, 2:15 p.m., The Castro Country Club, 18th and Hartford streets: Employees of The Castro Country Club called the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) after a man entered the establishment and arm-locked himself around a palm tree in the club's garden area. The staff tried to pull him off of the tree, but he refused to let go. The man then proclaimed that he was God and that all other people around him were stupid. Responding officers and paramedics pried him from the tree kicking and screaming and removed him from the club. He was then transported to San Francisco General Hospital where he underwent a mental evaluation.

## Robbery suspect apprehended

Friday, June 25, 8 p.m., 2200 block of Fillmore Street: SFPD officers of the Northern Station apprehended a man in the Western Addition believed responsible for as many as nine armed robberies in San Francisco over the past three months. The man had just allegedly robbed Body Options

clothing store on Fillmore Street and as he ran from the store, the officers heard a woman yelling from the shop "Help, we've just been robbed!" Support units were dispatched and a perimeter was set up around the area. Officers cornered the man and upon body check found nearly \$1,000 in cash in his pocket. The suspect, Jeffrey Fuller, faces several charges for burglary and grand theft.

## Shoplifters united

The Patrol reports that shoplifting in the Castro has been on the rise and suspect that robbing teams may be responsible for the crimes. Staff at the Body Shop on Castro near 18th Street have identified two men who allegedly stole several items from the store. One suspect is described as an Asian male adult. The other is also described as an Asian male adult, 21 years old, with spiky hair and glasses who approached the salesperson and acted as a distraction while the other lifted the goods.

Na Na Clothing store was hit again last week but this time successfully recovered their merchandise. After the clerk noticed the

suspect stuffing items into his clothing, she grabbed him as he tried to leave the store. She admonished the man and let him go. The suspect is described as a white male adult, 35 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, thin build, wearing wire glasses.

Staff at the new Planet Weavers store in the Castro called police after a man left the store with an item he chucked into his outfit. The police searched the area and found the man inside the Laundromat across the street on 18th Street. He had several items on him, allegedly from Walgreens and Cliff's Variety. Planet Weavers

staff decided not to press charges, and due to the fact that clerks did not see the man take the items from the other stores, officers released him. The suspect is described as a white male adult, 26 years old, blond hair, 5 feet 10 inches tall, with a thin build. ▼

This column is brought to you as a public service of the SFPD Office of Public Affairs and the men and women of the SFPD who protect and serve you. For information call the office at (415) 553-1651, or Ron at (415) 776-9399; or page him at (415) 201-6004. The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

Crime & Punishment

## Arsonists hit Sacto clinic

by M.R. Richards, B.A.R.  
Capitol Correspondent

A frisson of fear pulsed through the Sacramento community Friday, July 2, as still another pre-dawn fire bombing lit up the sky, exactly two weeks after three arson attacks on area synagogues. Federal Bureau of Investigation and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms teams were already in place due to the June 18 synagogue fires, and have already mounted a massive investigation of this latest attack.

Shortly after 3 a.m. a woman saw three men set fire to a dumpster behind a building that houses a medical clinic and called 911. A few minutes later, as alarms sounded, neighbors saw men attempting to break into the build-

ing and called again. Firefighters responded within minutes to find that in addition to the dumpster fire, several small fires had been set on the first floor of the two-story building. The flames were quickly put out, but the first floor of the building sustained about \$100,000 in damage, which was much less than that incurred at the synagogue fires.

Ironically, a health spa on the first floor sustained the brunt of the attack and will be out of business for some time. However, the Choice Medical Clinic, which was on the second floor, suffered only minor smoke damage and had the electricity been on, would have been open for business the same day. Instead, patients were transported to a San Francisco clinic by bus that morning. ▼

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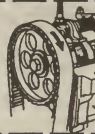
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## TG murder

◀ page 1

the other neighbors. Thompson says he talked with Emmon several times and he seemed pleasant. One of the most puzzling things about Emmon, says Thompson, was what he did with his garbage. "In all the time he lived there he never owned a garbage can. He never put out any trash at all."

Another of Bodfish's Mill Valley neighbors, Marci Kamp, recalls the last day anyone on the street saw Emmon alive. "He left in a huff," Kamp says he was upset because he suspected someone in the neighborhood was "using chemicals" that aggravated his allergies.

Ten days later, the person everyone on Vista De Valle knew as Emmon Bodfish was found murdered in Orinda.

## Died as a woman

Thompson told the B.A.R. that police interviewed him extensively after the crime, and showed him three photographs. The first two he identified as Emmon Bodfish, the third he recognized as a young man and an occasional visitor to the house, who he knew as Emmon's nephew.

What the police told Thompson next floored him and sent shock waves through Vista De Valle. Emmon Bodfish was really Margaret Bodfish, a woman, the same woman who bought the house; the young man they knew as Emmon Bodfish's nephew was not his nephew, but his son.

"He fooled me for two years," Thompson chuckled as he shook his head. "We were all totally shocked," added Kamp, as a third neighbor nodded with agreement.

Public records obtained by the B.A.R. confirm that Margaret Bodfish and Emmon Bodfish are the same person. Both have the same birth dates, have identical social security records, and both owned the same properties. The Department of Motor Vehicles has no record for Margaret Bodfish, but they do for Emmon Bodfish. A DMV representative confirmed that the person they know as Emmon Bodfish was pronounced dead by the Contra Costa County Coroner's office last week. When asked whether the victim was a female to male transsexual, the Contra Costa County Coroner's office would only say that Margaret Bodfish died a woman.

Neighbors say Bodfish ran her own pool maintenance business. Records show Bodfish was also a distributor of "Oxylfresh," a multilevel marketing company best known for selling breath fresheners and herbal products.

Neighbors in Orinda and in Mill Valley agree Bodfish went out of her way to avoid contact. "She was very, very, very reclusive," said Mill Valley neighbor Bob Gordon.

"She drove a Bentley and El Camino and never waved," added neighbor Cindy Jerbic. "It's strange to drive down the street and not even look at your neighbor. She just looked straight ahead, she didn't want to have any kind of contact." Jerbic added that unlike many of her fellow neighbors, she always suspected that Bodfish was a woman.

"She seemed nice enough but I get the feeling that there was something she was hiding," Gordon said. "Some sort of double life."

"I'm guessing that there was someone pretty shady in her past who came to kill her."

## Apparent suicide

Investigators say the Bodfish home in Orinda was found in disarray, but they don't know whether it had been ransacked or she simply kept a messy house. Orinda police Sergeant Chris Wenzel told the B.A.R. that it appeared Bodfish died of blunt trauma to the head.

The man who police have identified as Bodfish's son, Max Wills, 33, lived in a townhouse in Marin City, a couple of miles from Bodfish's Mill Valley house. Affixed to the door to the home now is a seal from the Marin County Coroner's Office, dated July 2, 1999 warning that it is a felony to enter the home per order of the "Santa Monica Coroner's Office." A spokesman for the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office, which oversees the city of Santa Monica, confirmed to the B.A.R. late Monday night that a man by the name of Max Wills was found dead in a motel room Thursday, July 1. His wrists had been slashed and it appeared to be a suicide.

Wenzel told the B.A.R. Tuesday, July 6 that Orinda police were still looking for Wills. They didn't consider him a suspect, said Wenzel, but they wanted to question him. Until this reporter told Wenzel that Wills was already dead, he had no idea. At press time, authorities still weren't saying whether they believe Wills was involved in his mother's murder.

## Due back tomorrow

Wills's next door neighbor, who asked not to be identified, told the B.A.R. on Monday that Wills said he was going on vacation two weeks ago, "and according to the schedule he gave me, he's due back tomorrow."

"He said he was going to Brice Canyon [Utah] and somewhere else."

The neighbor said Emmon Bodfish first bought the townhouse and later let Wills live there. He noticed the coroner's seal on Wills's door a couple of days ago and "wondered what it was all about." The elderly soft spoken neighbor didn't know that the "nice young man" he knew as Max, and the people of Vista De Valle knew simply as Emmon's nephew, had been dead for several days.

Property records list Emmon Bodfish and Margaret Bodfish as joint owners of another townhouse in Marin City just a few blocks from Wills's home. That home is currently being rented, but it's unclear whether Bodfish still owns it. A neighbor, Deborah Wright, told the B.A.R. she remembers a very reclusive person living there about a year and a half ago. "She didn't speak. When I said hello to her, I got no response back," said Wright.

"I wondered looking at him if he was a man or a woman," said Wright.

When shown a photograph of Bodfish, Wright emphatically responded "that's definitely him." She said she followed news of the murder of Margaret Bodfish in the media and was shocked that she had lived next door to the victim.

The Bodfish case is the first homicide in Orinda since August 1997 when former XY magazine coverboy Josh Puckett beat Vitaly "Steve" Poliakov to death with a cider bottle. Puckett says he acted in self defense to fend off a sexual assault, but pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and burglary as part of a plea bargain agreement. ▼

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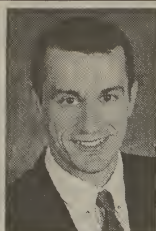
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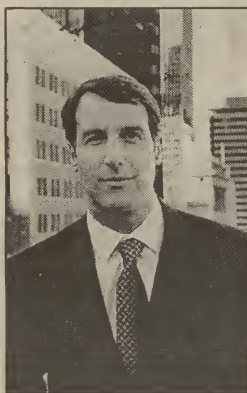
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# Hate crimes strategy in the Senate

by Bob Roehr

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999 (HCPA) may be attached as an amendment to an appropriations bill in the Senate, if gay allies and advocates adopt a plan now under consideration. The likely target for the amendment strategy is the appropriations bill funding operations of the Commerce, Justice, and State departments, when Congress returns from its July 4 recess.

"It was fairly clear from those hearings [on the HCPA held by Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) in May] that it might take some time to bring the bill through the Judiciary Committee," said Winnie Stachelberg, political director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

She says that the lead sponsors, including Senators Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) and Gordon Smith (R-Oregon), "are looking for other avenues to move this issue along and to pass something meaningful for all of the communities affected - gender, disability, and sexual orientation."

Stachelberg believes they are "close" to the 50 votes needed for passage. The tally is muddled by a number of unknown factors. Some members of Congress will support a stand-alone bill but are reluctant to support "riders" to an



Senator Orrin Hatch

appropriations bill.

The positions of the appropriations bill managers, Judd Gregg (R-New Hampshire) and Ernest Hollings (D-South Carolina), and of Hatch as chairman of the committee of jurisdiction also are unclear. Stachelberg admitted that vocal opposition from any of that trio likely would be enough to scuttle the amendment strategy.

Archiving over these concerns is the view "that this is a terribly important issue that for two years now hasn't come to the floor," Stachelberg said. "There is a sense that we can't have another hate crime rock this nation before there is some kind of action."

Further complicating the head counting is the fact that support and opposition does not break down along traditional party lines. Yes, the religious right continues to incite false charges against the legislation and archconservatives steadfastly oppose it.

But then, so too do some conservatives, moderates, and liberals, both within the gay community and without. *The Nation*, the flagship magazine of traditional liberalism carried an article denigrating the bill in its July 12 issue. And liberal Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wisconsin) long has been on

record as opposing the concept of hate crimes legislation.

Kevin Ivers, spokesman for Log Cabin Republicans, was dismayed that "the [amendment] strategy was sprung on us. We didn't hear about it until the [HRC] action alerts went out." It is yet another example of how in the category of "plays well with others," HRC does not always get the best of grades.

Despite a feeling that the strategy perhaps is premature, Log Cabin supports the effort. Ivers calls it "an important symbolic moment for all of the senators of both parties to make a moral statement about hate violence. It's about saying that violence against gays is wrong."

He sees political motivation behind the timing of this strategy. "There is an eagerness among some in the Democratic conference to push this now, force it to a failed vote, and then be able to portray the Republicans as uncaring. That is something Republicans in the Senate need to be aware of."

Both organizations are urging their members to contact their senators with the simple message, support passage of the HCPA in any form. ▼

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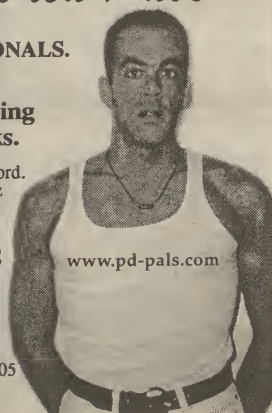
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**SUSTIVA has manageable side effects.** Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

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Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

**Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA.** SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

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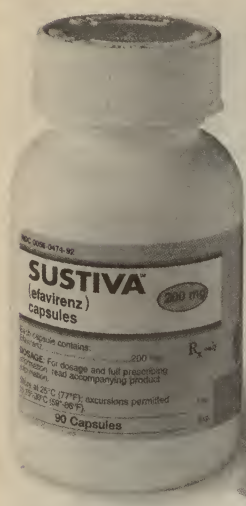
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1. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), December 1998.

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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

### What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

### How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

### Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

### Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

### How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

### Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

### Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

### What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

### What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

### What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

### Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:\*\*

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:\*\*

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

### How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

### How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

**This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.**

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Wilmington, DE 19880  
Issued September, 1998



# Three ballot petitions filed; two failed

by Cynthia Laird

Two grassroots efforts to put measures on the November ballot — one for a ballot measure to reopen gay bathhouses and one to rename a portion of Market Street after slain Supervisor Harvey Milk — fell far short of getting enough signatures by the July 5 deadline.

San Francisco voters will probably decide on three ballot initiatives for which activists turned in signatures to the Department of Elections Monday. Measures regarding ATM fees and increased openness in city government are expected to be on the ballot, as well as another vote on the fate of the Central Freeway.

Proponents of the two failed proposals plan to continue gathering signatures until early November in the hopes of qualifying for the March 2000 ballot. Michael Petrelis, lead proponent of reopening the gay bathhouses, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he and "a dozen gay men" gathered about 4,000 signatures in the last few months, but that they'll continue the effort in the hopes of qualifying for the March 2000 election. They have until the first week in November, he added.

Petrelis said bathhouse proponents are holding an emergency meeting this Sunday, July 11 at 6 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street. The meeting is in response to city proposal to lessen restrictions on massage parlors that Supervisor Tom Ammiano has drafted. That proposal is not related to reopening gay bathhouses.

Jim Buresch, chief proponent of the Market Street renaming proposal, said he gathered around 2,000 signatures. "We'll keep on chugging," he told the B.A.R. Buresch added that he hopes for a

high gay voter turnout that could pass the street re-naming effort locally if it qualifies for the March 2000 ballot, because of the statewide Knight initiative being on the ballot.

Backers of the ATM fee initiative and the Sunshine Ordinance held back-to-back news conferences on the steps of City Hall Monday before turning in their signatures. San Franciscans for Sunshine (SFS) members said they gathered more than 16,000 signatures, while members of the Campaign to End Extra ATM Fees said they turned in more than 17,000 signatures. Each initiative needs 10,510 valid signatures and election officials have 30 days to verify the ones submitted Monday.

Regarding the SFS-backed drive to open up city government, the 11-page ordinance, officially called the Access to Public Meetings and Records Initiative Ordinance, proposes a series of reforms to strengthen the current body of meetings and records provisions, called the Sunshine Ordinance, which was enacted by the city in 1993.

Ross Mirkarimi, a community advocate who's involved in the campaign, is hopeful the measure will qualify for the ballot, and praised the volunteers who helped get more than half of the signatures. SFS seems to have history on its side as volunteer-gathered signatures usually have a validity rate of about 90 percent. Valid signatures means that signers are San Francisco registered voters.

Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano and Supervisor Leland Yee have already announced their support of the Sunshine initiative; they were joined Monday by former Supervisor Angela Alioto, another early backer of the measure. Alioto pointed out that getting more than 16,000 signatures for a com-

plicated piece of legislation means city voters are tired of backroom deals and sole-source contracts at City Hall.

"We don't want AT&T and TCI meeting behind closed doors when it involves city money," Alioto said.

Several gay activists were instrumental in helping draft the ordinance, and Ammiano noted that he recently got legislation approved opening up city nonprofits that receive city funds.

Nonprofit organizations are not covered in this legislation, Mirkarimi emphasized.

Regarding the ATM fee proposal, Jon Golinger, with the campaign, said a coalition of local groups have come together with the proposal that would prohibit banks from charging double ATM fees. Earlier this year Mayor Willie Brown and the Board of Supervisors — after heavy lobbying from financial institutions — backed down on a similar proposal championed by Ammiano, who's also strongly in favor of this ballot measure.

Golinger said the ATM "surcharge" fee was first imposed by city banks in 1996, after a 20-year ATM network prohibition against the fees was lifted. The surcharge fees means that non-customers pay twice for every ATM transaction, since they come on top of the "foreign ATM" fee of \$2 that most banks already impose on their customers for using the ATMs of other banks. An April 1999 CALPIRG study found that 99 percent of bank ATMs in the state now impose the surcharges.

The Central Freeway measure calls for retrofitting and widening the stretch of elevated freeway from Mission Street to the Oak and Fell Street offramps. Voters approved a similar measure in 1996 but last year reversed that decision when they passed Proposition E. ▼

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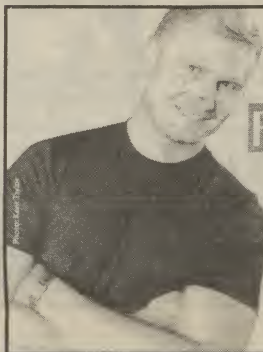
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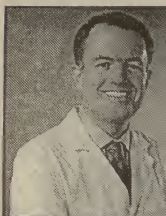
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## United Airlines

◀ page 1

was a denial of the request.

### Discrimination should stop

City officials at a hastily called news conference Friday said they were extremely pleased with Wilken's ruling. "United and other airlines went to court three weeks ago and asked the court to enjoin us. Today, the court rejected that request," said Dennis Aftergut, chief assistant city attorney and the city's lead lawyer in the case. "During the two to three years they appeal, the court said discrimination against employees with domestic partners should stop."

Wilken gave the airlines 30 days to appeal the order.

Aftergut said that although the airlines may appeal the July 2 ruling, they would have to take that to a higher court. As a general rule, higher courts tend to defer to lower courts, he explained, adding that Wilken has had the case for two years. He downplayed questions that United, Federal Express, or other airlines would leave the city rather than comply with Wilken's ruling. United's dispute with the city stems from a \$25 million contract covering kitchen and ground facilities at San Francisco International Airport (SFO) that United leases from the city. Federal Express also has a multi-million dollar 10-year lease with the city for space at SFO.

"There's no indication they would give that up," Aftergut said of United or other airlines leaving SFO. Mayor Willie Brown also hailed the judge's decision, saying both he and the Board of Super-

ordinance, which went into effect in June 1997. He predicted that once court options are exhausted, United and other airlines with leases at SFO will comply with the law. "I don't think the city enjoys doing business with law violators," the mayor said. "I'd urge United to get with it."

More than 2,300 city contractors comply with the law.

### Bad for morale?

In her ruling, Wilken said, "In this case, the public has a strong interest in preventing discrimination, and the denial of equal compensation causes significant injury both to the public and to the individuals employed by plaintiffs. ... However, plaintiffs did not present evidence that the implementation of the ordinance would cause them harm, or that the balance of the hardship tips in their favor."

"Although plaintiffs argue that the administrative burdens of changing their employment practices and renegotiating interline agreements would cause irreparable harm, they present no evidence that making such changes would be unduly burdensome, or that compliance with the ordinance would jeopardize plaintiffs' interline agreements or require that they shift their operations to another location."

Wilken rejected the arguments by the airlines that it would harm employee morale to provide benefits pursuant to the ordinance only

to San Francisco employees, or to provide such benefits and withdraw them upon a successful appeal. "The record indicates, however, that employee morale currently is being harmed by the failure to provide benefits pursuant to the ordinance," she stated.

Aftergut and Jeff Sheehy, founder of Equal Benefits Advocates (EBA), which launched the boycott against United, praised the gay and lesbian workers at United who filed declarations with the court testifying to low morale because of United's refusal to implement the law.

Local elected officials at the news conference claimed victory. Supervisor Leslie Katz said she was "thrilled" with the latest decision. "Today's decision goes beyond theoretical legal victories and represents the first step toward practical implementation of benefits for airline employees," she said.

Treasurer Susan Leal, who was a member of the Board of Supervisors when the ordinance was adopted, praised the attorneys who have worked on the case for over two years. Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammann and Supervisor Mark Leno were also on hand. "They're going nowhere and they're going to crash," Leno said of United. "They're getting bad legal advice. I think the writing's on the wall."

United officials did not return calls by the *Bay Area Reporter* by press time. ▼

## Dykeotomy

◀ page 10

homosexuality to be a genetic trait. I asked the champion for his take on the stir he had caused. "I don't understand the brouhaha," Earnest Singer said to me. "I am an Ex-Gay myself, but that doesn't mean I have to think like one."

The controversy surrounding a transitioning competitor was just too much for me. Word had spread the one Ex-Gay Games competitor, a former professional golfer, Una Swinger, was listening to an Indigo Girls tape in the locker room before her final run in the It's All Downhill From Here competition. Some opponents expressed concern that Miss Swinger was not straight enough

to be competing fairly.

"You cannot expect us to use the ladies' dressing room or feel safe in competition," said the eventual winner of the event, Donna Temptmee, "when there are women competing who haven't proven themselves to be Ex enough, whose eyes might be wandering. It's just not right."

On that note, I thought to myself. "Indeed. It's just not right to live in a world where everyone has to prove themselves and their sexuality, where a past has to be denied, and worst of all, where eyes are not free to wander. It's just not right."

So I kicked my heels three times and repeated the mantra of San Francisco that never wears thin or grows old: "There's no place like home. There's no place like home. There's no place like home ... ." ▼

## Family

◀ page 4

Casa Maria and Que Pasa Mexican restaurants.

"California law protects employees from this kind of outrageous discrimination," explained Scovern. "The fact that employees were allowed to use pens that had religious sayings demonstrates

that Family Restaurants and El Torito did not take issue with employees using pens that represented something about themselves.

"However," Scovern continued, "when it was something related to sexual orientation, then the restaurant took issue."

"Obviously Family Restaurants needs to learn that 'family' includes lesbians and gay men," Kors concluded. ▼

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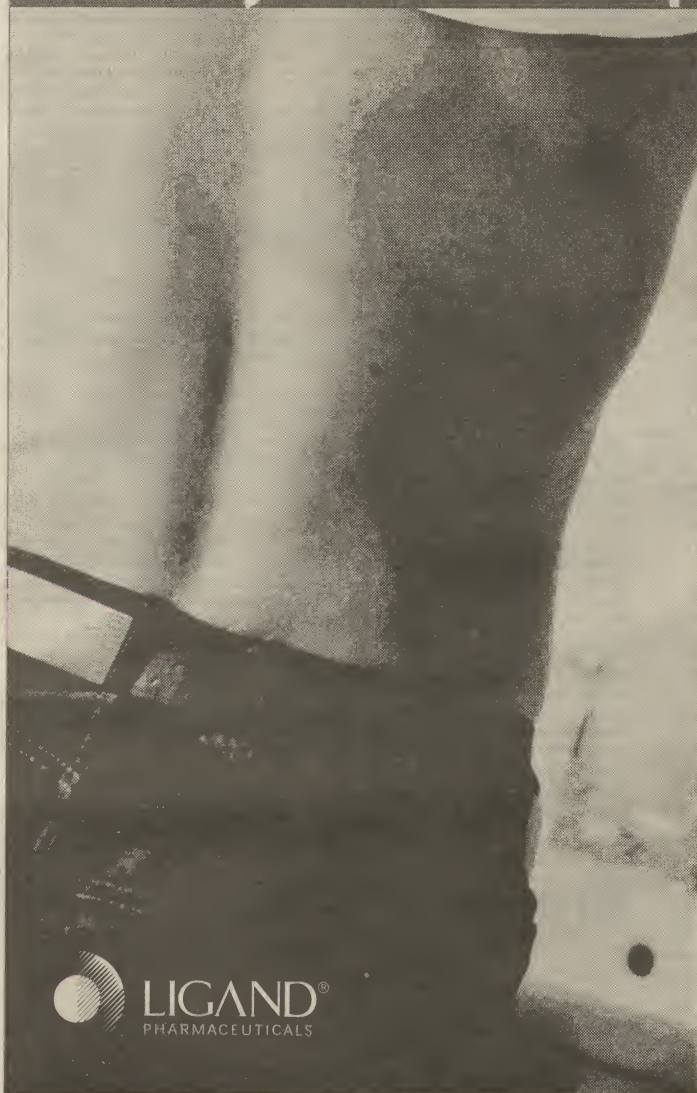


Panretin® gel is an innovative, self-administered topical retinoid gel used to treat skin lesions in persons with HIV-related Kaposi's sarcoma. Your doctor can advise whether treatment with Panretin® gel is appropriate for you.

Panretin® gel is generally applied two times each day. Its use should be evaluated by your doctor in relation to other treatments you may be taking. Panretin® gel can be used whether or not you've tried any other anti-KS treatments, but should not be used when systemic anti-KS therapy is required.

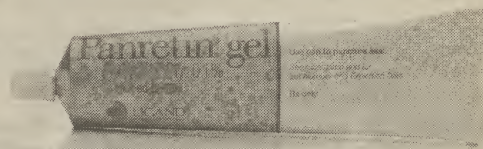
Panretin® gel does not prevent the appearance of new lesions or the increased growth of KS lesions not treated with Panretin® gel. Patients using Panretin® gel should avoid prolonged exposure of the treated area to sunlight or other

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ultraviolet light. While using Panretin® gel, you may experience some local effects such as redness, discomfort, itching, and skin peeling or flaking at the area of application. Other possible local skin effects include: rawness, surface or deep cracking, scabbing, crusting, drainage, oozing, or infection. Consult your health care provider for more information on how to manage these effects. Do not use Panretin® gel if you are pregnant or breast feeding.

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### BRIEF SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary. Before prescribing, please consult full prescribing information.

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is indicated for topical treatment of cutaneous lesions in patients with AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma. Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is not indicated when systemic anti-KS therapy is required (e.g., more than 10 new KS lesions in the prior month, symptomatic lymphedema, symptomatic pulmonary KS, or symptomatic visceral involvement). There is no experience to date using Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel with systemic anti-KS treatment.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to retinoids or to any of the ingredients of the product.

### WARNINGS

**Pregnancy:** Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel could cause fetal harm if significant absorption were to occur in a pregnant woman. 9-*cis*-Retinoic acid has been shown to be teratogenic in rabbits and mice. An increased incidence of fused sternebrae and limb and craniofacial defects occurred in rabbits given oral doses of 0.5 mg/kg/day (about five times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis, assuming complete systemic absorption of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid, when Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is administered as a 60 g tube over 1 month in a 60 kg human) during the period of organogenesis. Limb and craniofacial defects also occurred in mice given a single oral dose of 50 mg/kg on day eleven of gestation (about 127 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). Oral 9-*cis*-retinoic acid was also embryocidal, as indicated by early resorptions and post-implantation loss when it was given during the period of organogenesis to rabbits at doses of 1.5 mg/kg/day (about 15 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) and to rats at doses of 5 mg/kg/day (about 25 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis). Animal reproduction studies with topical 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted. It is not known whether topical Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel can modulate endogenous 9-*cis*-retinoic acid levels in a pregnant woman nor whether systemic exposure is increased by application to ulcerated lesions or by duration of treatment. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. If Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking it, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of child-bearing potential should be advised to avoid becoming pregnant.

### PRECAUTIONS

Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is indicated for topical treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma. Patients with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma were less tolerant of topical Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel; five of seven patients had 6 episodes of treatment-limiting toxicities—grade 3 dermal irritation—with Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel (0.01% or 0.05%).

**Photosensitivity:** Retinoids as a class have been associated with photosensitivity. There were no reports of photosensitivity associated with the use of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel in the clinical studies. Nonetheless, because in vitro data indicate that 9-*cis*-retinoic acid may have a weak photosensitizing effect, patients should be advised to minimize exposure of treated areas to sunlight and sunlamps during the use of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel.

**Drug Interactions:** Patients who are applying Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel should not concurrently use products that contain DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), a common component of insect repellent products. Animal toxicology studies showed increased DEET toxicity when DEET was included as part of the formulation.

Although there was no clinical evidence in the vehicle-controlled studies of drug interactions with systemic antiretroviral agents, including protease inhibitors, macrolide antibiotics, and azole antifungals, the effect of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel on the steady-state concentrations of these drugs is not known. No drug interaction data are available on concomitant administration of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel and systemic anti-KS agents.

**Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions:** No interference with laboratory tests has been observed.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** Long-term studies in animals to assess the carcinogenic potential of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted.

9-*cis*-Retinoic acid was not mutagenic in vitro (bacterial assays, Chinese hamster ovary cell HGPRT mutation assay) and was not clastogenic in vitro (chromosome aberration test in human lymphocytes) nor in vivo (mouse micronucleus test).

**Pregnancy Category D** (see "Warnings" section)

**Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether alitretinoin or its metabolites are excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential for adverse reactions from Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel in nursing infants, mothers should discontinue nursing prior to using the drug.

**Pediatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established.

**Geriatric Use:** Inadequate information is available to assess safety and efficacy in patients age 65 years or older.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

The safety of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel has been assessed in clinical studies of 385 patients with

AIDS-related KS. Adverse events associated with the use of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel in patients with AIDS-related KS occurred almost exclusively at the site of application. The dermal toxicity begins as erythema; with continued application of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel, erythema may increase and edema may develop. Dermal toxicity may become treatment-limiting, with intense erythema, edema, and vesiculation. Usually, however, adverse events are mild to moderate in severity; they led to withdrawal from the study in only 7% of the patients. Severe local (application site) skin adverse events occurred in about 10% of patients in the U.S. study (versus 0% in the vehicle control). Table 1 lists the adverse events that occurred at the application site with an incidence of at least 5% during the double-blind phase in the Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel-treated group and in the vehicle control group in either of the two controlled studies. Adverse events were reported at other sites but generally were similar in the two groups.

TABLE 1

Adverse Events with an Incidence of at Least 5% at the Application Site in Either Controlled Study in Patients Receiving Panretin<sup>®</sup> Gel or Vehicle Control

Adverse Event Term	Study 1		Study 2	
	Panretin <sup>®</sup> Gel N=134 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=134 Pts. %	Panretin <sup>®</sup> Gel N=36 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=46 Pts. %
Rash <sup>1</sup>	77	11	25	4
Pain <sup>2</sup>	34	7	0	4
Pruritus <sup>3</sup>	11	4	8	4
Exfoliative dermatitis <sup>4</sup>	9	2	3	0
Skin disorder <sup>5</sup>	8	1	0	0
Paresthesia <sup>6</sup>	3	0	22	7
Edema <sup>7</sup>	8	3	3	0

Includes Investigator terms:

<sup>1</sup> Erythema, scaling, irritation, redness, rash, dermatitis

<sup>2</sup> Burning, pain

<sup>3</sup> Itching, pruritus

<sup>4</sup> Flaking, peeling, desquamation, exfoliation

<sup>5</sup> Excoriation, cracking, scab, crusting, drainage, eschar, fissure or oozing

<sup>6</sup> Stinging, tingling

<sup>7</sup> Edema, swelling, inflammation

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel should initially be applied two (2) times a day to cutaneous KS lesions. The application frequency can be gradually increased to three (3) or four (4) times a day according to individual lesion tolerance. If application site toxicity occurs, the application frequency can be reduced. Should severe irritation occur, application of drug can be temporarily discontinued for a few days until the symptoms subside.

Sufficient gel should be applied to cover the lesion with a generous coating. The gel should be allowed to dry for three to five minutes before covering with clothing. Because unaffected skin may become irritated, application of the gel to normal skin surrounding the lesions should be avoided. In addition, do not apply the gel on or near mucosal surfaces of the body.

A response of KS lesions may be seen as soon as two weeks after initiation of therapy but most patients require longer application. With continued application, further benefit may be attained. Some patients have required over 14 weeks to respond. In clinical trials, Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel was applied for up to 96 weeks. Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel should be continued as long as the patient is deriving benefit.

Occlusive dressings should not be used with Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel.

### OVERDOSAGE

There has been no experience with acute overdose of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel in humans. Systemic toxicity following acute overdosage with topical application of Panretin<sup>®</sup> gel is unlikely because of limited systemic plasma levels observed with normal therapeutic doses. There is no specific antidote for overdosage.

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## OBITUARIES

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for style. If you're submitting a photo, write their name on the back. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which is Friday at 3 p.m.

## Donald Robert Wright



mourn his passing the apple of his eye, his son Terry Wright, as well as a loving father-in-law, Richard Gianuzzi, and a

Donald Robert Wright died suddenly at his home in Hayward of heart complications on June 26, 1999. He is survived by his loving and faithful partner of 33 years, Terry Tibbets. He leaves to

loving daughter-in-law, Jennifer Schwarz.

Don was the former owner and operator of Cowboy Country in the Castro for many years. Don served as Mr. Cowboy San Francisco, 1991-1992. He was very active in many local Western dance groups, and was active with the gay rodeo. He loved fishing, hunting, and horseback riding. He and his partner Terry were a featured couple in the book *Gay and Lesbian Marriages*.

Funeral services were held at the Colonial Chapel in Oakland, and burial was at St. Mary Cemetery in Oakland, California.

# Surviving hepatitis

## Health threat prompts vaccine programs, support services, international conference

by Mark Norby

Recent medical reports show that hepatitis infection rates have dramatically increased, heightening concern among medical professionals over the availability of prevention and recovery information. In response, doctors and medical centers in the Bay Area have developed vital support services for those interested in slowing the spread of hepatitis A, B, and C (hep A, B, and C), and several programs have been created to combat the spread of the viruses. The programs include a new Department of Public Health (DPH) walk-in inoculation clinic, a Davies Medical Center support project, and an annual international conference on hep C.

DPH is expecting to open the walk-in hepatitis inoculation clinic within three to four weeks at their offices at 101 Grove Street in San Francisco's Civic Center area. There are also DPH clinics throughout the city that currently offer inoculation services. The Civic Center clinic will offer on-the-spot vaccine injections for both hep A and B, and will be offered primarily to adults who have no vaccine coverage with their current health plans.

"The clinic is geared toward people who have insurance but may not be fully covered for inoculations on their existing policies," DPH hep C specialist Dr. Susan Fernyak told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Fernyak said that most health plans charge their clients up to \$100 for inoculations and that DPH will augment those costs depending on the patient's ability to pay.

In addition, ongoing support services will begin at Davies Medical Center in the Castro District. The center will launch its hep C support project "Disability: What you need to know" beginning this Wednesday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m., and the HCV (hepatitis C virus) Global Foundation will hold its third annual International Hep C Conference August 21-23 at Mills College in Oakland.

### Rising infection rates: Hep A, B, & C

Gay men are at greatest risk in contracting hep A and B. "Fortunately," Fernyak added, "there are vaccines for both." Yet unlike hep A and B, there currently is no vaccine for hep C, and the largest number of infections have occurred among the HIV-positive population, especially in injection drug users.

"More than 4,000,000 Americans are infected by hepatitis C," said HCV Global Foundation Di-

rector Ronald Duffy. "More than 400,000,000 people worldwide are infected with hepatitis C and more are contracting this disease every day. HIV and hep C co-infection is on the rise, and it is the HIV-positive community that suffers infection in highest numbers."

Duffy emphasized that many of those infected are injection drug users, and that many others received blood transfusions prior to 1992. Contracting hep C also happens through common household practices like sharing razors or toothbrushes; through sex or tattooing, body piercing, or just getting a manicure.

Alan Franciscus is the director of the Davies Medical Center Hep C Support Project. His research primarily focuses on hep C, although his scope includes vital information on methods of contracting hep A and B. Fran-

not know that they are infected because the disease can take 20 to 30 years to become symptomatic, by which time the body's liver can be badly damaged. As a potentially fatal illness without a vaccine, surviving hep C rests primarily with support services and conferences where doctors and health professionals share and reveal the progress of ongoing research.

The support project at Davies Medical Center will focus on short term and long term disability available to those with hep C. It is open to the public and free of charge. The International HCV Conference in Oakland will bring together physicians and nurses, health administrators, case managers and social workers, counselors, and most importantly, patients. The three-day conference will highlight aspects of western medicine, Chinese medicine, sub-

**The support project at Davies Medical Center will focus on short term and long term disability available to those with hep C. It is open to the public and free of charge.**

ciscus told the B.A.R. about those methods, and about his center's plans for combating the spread of the viruses.

"Hep A is mainly contracted through oral-fecal interaction, but the good news is that the hep A vaccine allows the virus to resolve itself. Yet those that contract hep C need to be inoculated for hep A. If someone infected with hep C does not receive the hep A vaccine, the risk of sickness and eventual death is much greater."

Franciscus said that the existing statistics are different for hep B infection, and he stated that those infected with hep C seem not to need a hep B inoculation.

"Hep B is contracted through sex and needles, especially rough sex, SM, traumatic anal sex, and other practices where blood is drawn. Hep B is contracted through blood-to-blood interaction and can be chronic, though the current vaccine often allows the virus to resolve itself," Franciscus said.

"This disease affects us all, and many infected with hep C are also infected with HIV," Duffy added. Some medical figures report that as many as 70 percent of the total people infected with HIV in the United States are co-infected with hep C. Duffy also emphasized that most people do

stance abuse, alternative therapies, and disability rights.

"The conference is the most important hep C event of the year," Duffy said. "We are excited to see the involvement of physicians, nurses, acupuncturists, people in recovery, family members, and patients living with the disease. Our hopes rely on new research and trial studies, and this conference is where it all comes together." ▼

DPH inoculation clinics may be contacted by consulting the blue section of the Pacific Bell white pages. Clinics are listed under SF City & County, Health Department, followed by local addresses under Health Centers. "Disability: What you need to know" starts July 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the North Tower of Davies Medical Center, located at the corner of Castro and Duboce streets in San Francisco. The International HCV Conference begins Saturday, August 21 at 1 p.m. at Mills College, located at 5000 MacArthur Boulevard in Oakland. Sliding-scale registration fees apply and are due by August 15. Registration forms are available by calling (415) 920-7000, or on the web at [www.jeonet.com/hcvglobal](http://www.jeonet.com/hcvglobal).



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# The plunge

by Jim Provenzano

While known for its highly competitive and perfectionist environment, the atmosphere in diving at the International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics Championships meet in Atlanta last month was a relaxed fit.

Still, the divers managed to execute some swift performances, and trade tips on newer dives. IGLA '99 served as a fun way to commune in the company of fellow enthusiasts in this unique sport.

Mike Adams of New York competed in the one-meter synchro and the five- and 10-meter platform ten, where he attempted a new dive.

"I just learned a new dive yesterday," he said on the second day of the meet. "I've never done it. I was too scared, and I've never even been on a platform before."

He prefers springboard diving,

what he called "an almost completely different sport. The flexible board's throwing you up in the air, whereas with platform, you're on a cement slab and you have to do it all from your body strength."

Adams coaches a high school diving team. He knows how stressful a homophobic jock environment can be, and works to prevent that. Where he teaches, "It's a very accepting environment, but high school is very awkward. You can't discuss sexual issues."

Although not "way out" at work, he did tell people he was going to IGLA to compete, "and if they ask the particulars, I'm honest with them."

Many of his students know and accept him. "I have a wonderful supportive work environment. I think exposure to gay and lesbian issues will make them more comfortable."

Adams is the kind of coach

many a gay kid can admire. "I am absolutely a role model," he said. "I teach from a place of love. I can hear myself in them. We take a non-sexist non-judgmental encouraging approach. You never hear my kids say anything derogatory."

But is that rare in a sports environment?

"I see a lot of rough coaching" at swimming events, Adams said. "Coaches yell at kids, maybe to be heard over the din." His experience in law school also included professors who "taught from a place of humiliation. I like to encourage kids."

And although he enjoyed receiving his medals for competing, it's no big deal. "I think medals motivate people and reward them for their activities. I don't see this as a dihard event. People are breaking records, but it's not a cutthroat, back-stabbing competition. I don't like brutal and adversarial. It doesn't have to be nasty."

**Cleveland rocks**

"My friends back home are



Mike Schirmer, IGLA platform diver

mad because I'm missing Pride," said Mike Schirmer of Cleveland, "but this is international!"

Schirmer said he came to Atlanta to watch the IGLA meet, but ended up getting "roped into competing, even though I haven't practiced in years." He took first place. It seems divers share the trait of modesty, as well as talent.

Schirmer concentrated on his sport, avoiding gay life until his senior year in college. "It was rough," he said. "I was teased throughout high school. We used to go down to Florida to compete in the same pool at the same time with Greg Louganis."

For years rumors of Louganis and other divers being gay persisted in their private world. "It was like, 'So and so's gay!' It was just a rumor mill." Now, with several divers out of the closet, there may be more openness, at least between competitors.

But does the prevalence of gay men in the sport have anything to do with its demanding artistic nature? Schirmer isn't sure, but was happy to show off his artistic talents on the platform, and to see more divers coming out, like David Pichler and Pichler's coach, former Olympian Patrick Jeffrey, and others. "I always assumed some were gay but didn't know who was on the list."

**Hot dogging**

Drew Cockrell has always been a bit of a thrill-seeker, and diving fits his adventurous nature. The former Florida gymnast and circus trapeze artist was comfortable atop the diving platform in his new home town of Atlanta.

As his boyfriend watched from beside the pool, he varied his dives from an admitted sloppy "wake-up dive" to well-formed attempts from various platform levels.

For Cockrell, just being able to play at a quality facility is satisfying. He's noticed that at many pools "slowly diving boards started going away," he said. "Either insurance wouldn't cover it or it's too expensive for them to carry it. Georgia Tech's facility is only for students or contributing alumni."

Despite the difficulty in finding diving facilities, Cockrell did rather well for his "first day on the board in 20 years trying to do a move correctly." One of his high school coaches often called him "a hot dog," noting his strong ability to muscle a dive around.

Cockrell found his sexuality was no impediment to his athletic endeavors. "Being gay didn't have anything to do with it at all."

But his inspiration may be. "One of my early memories from when I lived in Pensacola, I was 5 or 6 years old. A bunch of navy men taught me how to do dives off the edge of a pool."

Among his future adventures? He and his partner just got hang gliding licenses. Having advanced "from the gymnastics floor to diving, then trapeze and now flying," outer space may be next frontier. ▼

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## Tennis mom

◀ page 11

five of the top 100 women players were gay. Ironically, there appear to be fewer lesbians in tennis than in other professional sports like golf and basketball. This may be due in part to the fact that most of today's women tennis players are not Amazonian jocks who live to excel in athletics but rather little girls whose fathers (and occasionally mothers) have raised them from birth to be the next Chris Evert.

Granted, tennis has had its share of champions who were lesbian or bisexual: Navratilova, Billie Jean King, Alice Marble, and Helen Jacobs, to name the few who were bold enough to publicly acknowledge their sexuality. This year's surprise finalist at the Australian Open, a 19-year-old French player named Amelie Mauresmo, matter-of-factly credited her new girlfriend for the marked improvement in her tennis. But among the 16 seeded players at Wimbledon this year, I know of only one player who is a lesbian, and she has never gone on record about her private life.

The idea that the women's tennis circuit is some kind of sapphic sorority waiting breathlessly to pounce on uninitiated newcomers is preposterous. For one thing, the competitive atmosphere on today's tour is so cutthroat that the players rarely interact with each other at all, let alone foster some kind of sisterly camaraderie.

And the notoriously image-conscious WTA tour officials would never stand for sexual harassment or inappropriate behavior in the locker room or anywhere else.

Stevenson's close friend and fellow player Brandis Braverman told the *Los Angeles Times* last week that she was as surprised as everyone else about Samantha Stevenson's allegations.

"I've been in plenty of locker rooms on tour and it seems a little extreme and farfetched that Alexandra would be approached by anyone with 30 or so players in the room," said Braverman. "First of all, she's not very approachable. She's a big, strong girl, who's also strong-minded. I just don't think anyone's going to be putting the moves on her."

## Mother of all hypocrisy

More important than merely dispelling the outrageous myth of the "female athlete as predatory lesbian" is the urgent need to educate tennis parents that, regardless of their religious or ideological beliefs, they need to respect the sport and the individual players enough to refrain from making derogatory public remarks. We've come a long way in making homophobic sentiments as unacceptable as racist or sexist ones, but we obviously have a ways to go.

One would think that the elder Stevenson, who also claims her daughter has encountered subtle racism on the tour, would easily identify with others who experience discrimination. A free-lance sports journalist, Stevenson ap-

parently enjoys making headlines herself and wishes to advance a personal agenda in portraying herself and her daughter as moral superiors. This will surely seem hypocritical to fellow conservative moralists who may disapprove of her background as a woman who had a child out of wedlock, fathered by a famous married man of another race.

The American Lindsay Davenport, who ended Stevenson's amazing run in the semifinals and went on to win her first Wimbledon title, told reporters that she and other players didn't appreciate being painted with the broad brush of criticism by Stevenson's mother.

"Some of the comments she has made the past few weeks, I'm not sure if she's doing it for attention, because they sound crazy," Davenport said. "Alexandra has enjoyed the whole Wimbledon experience, played great and all of this stuff has come on her because of her mom. You can't help but feel sorry for her because when you talk to her she's nice. Luckily, she's 18 - she's an adult now. She'll be fine."

Meanwhile, the WTA would be wise to mandate sensitivity trainings for all players and their parents. ▼

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## LEGAL NOTICES

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 232572

The following person(s) are doing business as, CyberMart of Values, 3976-A 23rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Larry W. Burback. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06/21/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/21/99.  
JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 303361

In the Matter of the Application of Justin Thomas Browne, For Change of Name. The application of Justin Thomas Browne, for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Justin Thomas Browne, has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Abdul Rahim Browne. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4206 on the 5th day of August, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 1999

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant is: Hyatt, Michael Dean & Lim, Micylene. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Bev-

erages to sell alcoholic beverages at: 1684 Bryant Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. For the following type of License: On Sale Beer & Wine Eat-in Place. San Francisco District Office, 185 Berry Street, Suite 5600, San Francisco, Ca. 94107.  
JULY 1, 8, 15 1999

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 232858

The following person(s) are doing business as, InfoPresidio, 1111 Jones #8, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Ann Nurrie Cavi-ness. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 07/01/99.  
JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 1999

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT  
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS  
NAME: 214077

The following person(s) Pinnawalage, Chandrapala R. have abandoned the use of the use of the fictitious business name known as: Video & More. Located at: 379 Ellis Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 5/15/97. This business was conducted by: a individual signed Pinnawalage Chandrapala. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on date indicated by file stamp above, June 14, 1999  
JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 1999

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**STATMENT FILE NO. 231491**  
The following person(s) are doing business  
as, Renegade Resources. 757 Capp Street,  
San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is  
conducted by an individual, signed Timothy  
Pacaldo. The registrant(s) commenced to  
transact business under the above listed fic-  
titious business name or names on 5/11/99.  
The statement was filed with the County  
Clerk of the City and County of San Fran-  
cisco, CA on 05/11/99.  
JUNE 17, 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRAN-  
CISCO: FILE NO: 304167**

In the Matter of the Application of  
Lawrence Irvin Tipton. For Change of  
Name. The application of Lawrence Irvin  
Tipton, for change of name, having been  
filed in court, and it appearing from said ap-  
plication that Lawrence Irvin Tipton has  
filed an application proposing that his name  
be changed to John V. Wood. Now there-  
fore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that  
all persons interested in said matter do ap-  
pear before this Court in department X-  
4/206 on the 29th day of July, 1999, at 9:00  
o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the  
application for change of name should not be  
granted.  
JUNE 17, 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRAN-  
CISCO: FILE NO: 304158**

In the Matter of the Application of Sheri  
Lee Mueller For Change of Name. The ap-  
plication of Sheri Lee Mueller for change of  
name, having been filed in court, and it ap-

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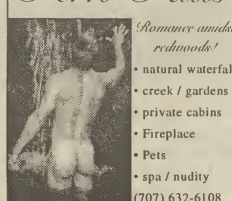
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**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF Daryl  
Jay Dennis For Change of Name. The ap-  
plication of Daryl Jay Dennis for change of  
name, having been filed in court, and it ap-  
pearing from said application that Daryl Jay  
Dennis has filed an application proposing  
that his name be changed to Daryl Jeffrey  
Gannon. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered  
and directed, that all persons interested in  
said matter do appear before this Court in  
department X-4/206 on the 2nd day of Au-  
gust 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to  
show cause why the application for change of  
name should not be granted.  
JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 15, 1999**

**STATMENT FILE NO. 232713**

The following person(s) are doing business  
as, Joni West Consulting, 1415 Franklin  
Street Suite #303, San Francisco, Ca.  
94109. This business is conducted by an in-  
dividual, signed Joni Weinstein. The regis-  
trant(s) commenced to transact business  
under the above listed fictitious business  
name or names on N/A. The statement was  
filed with the County Clerk of the City and  
County of San Francisco, CA on 06/25/99.  
JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 1999

**STATMENT FILE NO. 232643**

The following person(s) are doing business  
as, Bralindrops, 1881 Hayes Street, San  
Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is con-  
ducted by an individual, signed David A.  
Miller. The registrant(s) commenced to  
transact business under the above listed fic-  
titious business name or names on N/A. The  
statement was filed with the County Clerk of  
the City and County of San Francisco, CA  
on 06/23/99.  
JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 1999



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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE. CASE # 271 470**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: John Francis Reed, John F. Reed and John Reed. A petition for probate has been filed by Robert P. Reed, in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, 400 McAllister St. SF, CA 94102. The petition for probate requests that Robert P. Reed be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on August 4, 1999, 9:00 am at 400 McAllister Dept. 13 Room 204 SF, CA 94102. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the petitioner Cleo D. Allen 629 Arguello Boulevard Suite 303 SF, CA 94118-4063. 415-668-3919. Attachment to the petition for Probate Estate of John Francis Reed. Petitioner requests waiver of bond as he is the proposed administrator of the estate and the sole heir of the estate. Additionally it is estimated that the estate value is less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000). Pe-

itioner's permanent residence is: Robert P. Reed, 2102 East 80th St. Tacoma, WA 98404-4143. Known heirs of the decedent Robert P. Reed (adult brother of decedent) 2102 East 80th St. Tacoma, WA 98404-4143 JUNE 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE. CASE # 272259**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Anne Hasert. A petition for probate has been filed by Herbert Sohl, in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, 400 McAllister St. SF, CA 94102. The petition for probate requests that Herbert Sohl be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on July 26, 1999, 9:00 am at 400 McAllister Dept. 13 Room 204 SF, CA 94102. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the petitioner Cleo D. Allen 629 Arguello Boulevard Suite 303 SF, CA 94118-4063. 415-668-3919. JULY 8, 15, 22 1999

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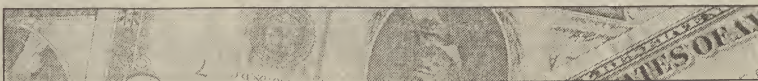


## LEGAL NOTICES

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 232310**  
The following person(s) are doing business as, WarrantyNow, LeasingNow, 123 Townsend Street Ste. #550 San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Ronald Goeden-dorp. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06/01/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/10/99.  
**JUNE 17, 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 232335**  
The following person(s) are doing business as, Zhen Wa Co, 158 Laura Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Zhu, Zhen Hu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/10/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 06/10/99.  
**JUNE 17, 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 231059**  
The following person(s) are doing business as, Famous Car Sales, 616 Rutland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Santana, Demetrius Robinson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 4/23/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 04/23/99.  
**JUNE 17, 24, JULY 1, 8, 1999**





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**page 41**

**Lady Diana**  
Jazz vocalist Diana  
Krall plays Stern Grove.  
**page 39**



**Wilde devotion**  
Talking with 'Ideal Husband'  
director Oliver Carter.  
**page 37**



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 27 • 8 July 1999

## Silence is golden

by Gary Morris

### 4th Annual Silent Film Festival at the Castro

**T**he mere existence of a silent film festival in an era of demographically driven, lowest common denominator, special-effects laden, product-placement-crazed filmmaking is cause for celebration — even more so because our local one is just the right size at three features and a cartoon show, and running for just a day, Sunday, July 11 at the Castro Theatre. (Some of the more bloated local film fests might follow the SFF's lead.)

Silent animation sounds like an oxymoron, but aficionados have long treasured the prehistoric antics of Walt Disney's *Alice*, which mixed a "real girl" with cartoon backgrounds; Walter Lantz's *Oswald the Lucky Rabbit*; and the Fleischers' *Koko the Clown*, who later joined Betty Boop in some of her shorts. These characters, along with primitive but fun efforts by Paul Terry, Rudolf Ising, and Friz Freleng, make a welcome appearance at the beginning of this program.

Next up is Edmund Goulding's superior Garbo vehicle *Love* (1927). Inexplicably, this nuanced, gorgeously shot and dressed update of *Anna Karenina* has been written off as minor Garbo and an inferior version of the actress's sound remake. In fact, she's at her most luminous and affecting, thanks in part to William Daniels' soft-focus photography and Goulding's sensitive direction. This was the film that fol-

**page 35 ►**

Charles "Buddy" Rodgers, Clara Bow, and Richard Arlen in *Wings* (1927)



Courtesy of Tell Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

## The wild, wild West

by Gary Morris

### 'Strange on the Range' series at YBC



Joe Dallesandro and Eric Emerson in Andy Warhol's *Lonesome Cowboys*

**W**esterns were once among the most popular cinematic forms, but unlike, say, film noir, they've failed to maintain much cultural cachet. While "neo-noirs" abound, there's no such thing as a "neo-western," and on the rare occasion when a new western does appear, as in the case of Clint Eastwood's *Unforgiven* (1992), it's treated as a novelty.

One reason why westerns no longer appeal is a feeling that they're a narrow, monolithic genre, driven by a simple good vs. evil morality and featuring tediously heroic representatives of patriarchy who seem quite old-fashioned today. However, this is a limited view of a much richer genre, and perusing the *Strange on the Range* series at the Yerba Buena Center gives a welcome opportunity to see just how *weird* the western could be. Any genre that can incorporate women taking over men's roles, homosexual cowboys, Freudian psychosis, and stories about America that aren't even made here can't be called monolithic.

The series opens with a double feature that shows the extremes of the genre after the war. Raoul Walsh's *Pursued* (1947) incorporates the 1940s vogue for psychiatry and is considered the first "Freudian western." With its smothering shadows and gorgeous low-key photography (by James Wong Howe), it can also be considered the first "noir western." Robert Mitchum gives one

**page 36 ►**

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



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- Stephen Holden, NEW YORK TIMES

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- Ernest Hardy, LA WEEKLY

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## by Roberto Friedman and Greta Groupie

When surf rockers **The Ziggens** opened for **Frank Black and the Catholics** last week at Slim's, the lead Ziggen introduced his drummer Zigen by saying, "He's so cool, he's both lesbian and gay!"

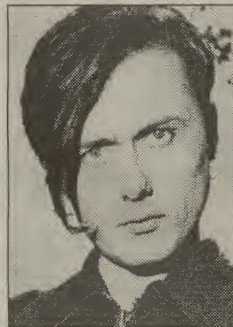
Then Fat Frank took the stage and played songs from his band's new album *Pistolero* (spinART), including the song "I Want Rock & Roll," with the immortal lyric, "If you go to San Francisco, just remember, it all is disco." Isn't it great that even straight rotund rockers have to sit up and take notice of our native culture?

On the other hand, we notice a preponderance of female pronouns in the lyrics of the new **London Suede** album, *Head Music* (Nude/Columbia): everything from, "She's shaking obscene like a fucking machine," to "She's got *savoir faire*," to "She's in fashion." Why all these she's? Brit gaddly journalist **Mark Simp-**



Mark Simpson

**son** tells the back story in his new book *It's a Queer World: Deviant Adventures in Pop Culture* (Harrington Park Press), recounting that from their very first album, "[Suede] had a dangerous, scandalous edge in the form of seventies androgyny queered up for the nineties. It was there in their songs — 'We kiss in his room to a popular tune'... and an album cover that featured two disabled lesbians snogging. Most of all, it was there in the sissy shape of frontman



Suede frontman Brett Anderson

**Brett Anderson.** ...Anderson was the most offensively, delectably unmanly pop star since **Morrissey**. Damn them.

"But I needn't have fretted. Even as Suede were being feted, a backlash was brewing that would unmask them as fakes. What finally unleashed it was Brett's remark that he considered himself a bisexual who had never had a homosexual experience." So Suede were frauds after all! All that mincing of hips and meeting of same-sex lips was phony, a sham!

## How satisfying!

As for **Morrissey** himself and his latest phase as a butch girl, Simpson writes that the Mozz is "reminding us that the 'masculine' in a man can be as queer as the 'feminine' in him. Morrissey's reincarnation as a 'lad' is as disturbing and as offensive, in its own way, as his gladioli manifestation."

While we're on the subject of once-and-future rock stars, we hear tell of a forthcoming production from expressionist dance troupe *Transit* called *Industrial Evolution*, to be based on the **Unabomber's** Manifesto, as read by former X rocker **Exene Cerven-**

**kova.** Quite naturally, we're intrigued. As odious as his methods were, we always felt simpatico to the Unabomber's philosophy of resisting the go-go technological culture. In fact, whenever we hear a cell phone go off at the beach or a park — places we go to *escape* the phone — we're willing to re-evaluate our distaste for his tactics.



Paul Bowles in 1962

## Up above the world

The world of the famously reclusive writer and composer **Paul Bowles** is about to become a little more revealed, as **Jennifer Baichwal's** film biography *Let It Come Down: The Life of Paul Bowles* opens this week at the Red Vic Movie House. Baichwal's documentary includes footage of the last meeting of Bowles, author **William Burroughs** and poet **Allen Ginsberg** in NYC; the only appearance on film of **Cherifa, Jane Bowles'** lover, who is rumored to have poisoned Jane to death; and Bowles giving his opinion of **Bernardo Bertolucci's** film based on his novel *The Sheltering Sky* (want to bet it's not an unequivocal rave?). For fans of either the inspired Bowles, this seems like a must-see film date.

*Let It Come Down* will play Mon.-Wed., July 12-14 at the Red Vic, 1727 Haight St. For showtimes, call 668-3994.

Coincidence or not, the non-fiction filmmaking group **True Stories** presents **Owsley Brown's** *Night Waltz: The Music of Paul Bowles* on Wed., July 14 at 8 p.m. in the Screening Room at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Bowles recounts his life in music, the field in which he first found acclaim. For tickets, \$7, call 978-ARTS.

## Shake your moneymaker

Those sexy and sexable folks at Good Vibrations have announced the results of their first annual "Masturbate-A-Thon" fundraising event, co-sponsored by women-owned sex shops in NYC, Seattle and Boston. You may recall that participants collected bucks from sponsors for every minute spent masturbating on May 7. All

the self-pleasuring that day raised the nicely engorged sum of \$8,537, to be distributed to the Babes Network (serving HIV+ women in Seattle), Frost'd (social services for sex workers in NYC), Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida (Latino/a HIV service in SF), and Women with a Vision (disease prevention in New Orleans).

Masturbate-A-Thon organizer **Laura Weide** said, "All participants get a bumpersticker that says, 'I Came for a Cause,' so they can display their masturbation pride! We hope they're already in training for next year."

We'd say give those masturbathoners a big hand, but it's clear they've given it themselves already.

## Dissonant music

Confidential to the two well-known music critics seen having a nasty squabble in the aisle of the War Memorial during the last of the equally nasty *Ring* cycle: You two have been friends and confidants for years, can't you play nicely together in public?

Meanwhile, congratulations to **BAR** critic **Stephanie von Buchau**, who won the 1999 award for First Place in Arts Criticism from the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies. The AAN judges wrote, "Von Buchau's opera criticism ... is a first-rate combination of elegance and attitude. It's always smart and studied, but it also has an irreverence and a colloquial tone that grounds **Wagner**, et al. in the here and now." We second that emotion.



The Book of the Penis

## Tool chest

Author **Maggie Paley** says about the subject of her new book *The Book of the Penis* (Grove) that "once the penis comes up, almost anything you say becomes a double entendre. So many simple basic words are penis-related: in, out, hard, soft, head, tail and so on." She also shares this amusing riddle: "Why do so many men have names for their dicks? Answer: Would you want to be bossed around by somebody you don't even know?"

When she gets down to famous dicks in history, Paley quotes composer **Ned Rorem** on French poet and filmmaker **Jean Cocteau**: "that, as a parlor trick, [he] used to lie naked on his back, and surrounded by a cheering section, with no manipulation, no friction of any kind, would achieve ejaculation." What a party guy! Too bad Cocteau never got a chance to be a specialty fundraiser for the Masturbate-A-Thon.

We know this is a subject with staying power for our readers, so next week we'll be chatting at length — oh, about eight column inches — with Ms. Paley about penises. As always, Out There promises to get to the meat of the matter. ▼





Martin Wuttke (left) of the Berliner Ensemble stars in Bertolt Brecht's *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui*.

## A midsummer's nightmare

Berliner Ensemble's 'Resistible Rise...'

by Richard Dodds

With only 10 minutes remaining in the three-hour production of *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui*, a loud voice erupted from the back of Zellerbach Hall. "This is a nightmare," bellowed the unknown theatergoer, his unscripted eruption followed by the thudding of an exit door. Perhaps he meant it as a compliment.

Indeed, what the fabled Berliner Ensemble has wrought with Bertolt Brecht's play very much resembles a nightmare in which recognizable figures and images come together in confused and disturbing ways. But the symbolism in this queasy dream is clear enough: We are watching Adolf Hitler's rise to power.

Brecht provided the easy-to-read parallels, but the Berliner Ensemble adds an imagery that can be powerful, profane, grotesque, rudely comic, and frustratingly obtuse. The production, devised by Heiner Müller shortly before his death in 1995, is both an introduction to and a farewell for the Berliner Ensemble in the United States.

Founded by Brecht and his wife 50 years ago, the ensemble flourished as an esteemed state theater in East Germany. Its evolution into a private theater has come at a price in artistic direction, and next month the company will dissolve itself before re-emerging under new leadership and as-yet-uncertain mission.

But before this reconstitution, and to considerable fanfare, the Berliner Ensemble has embarked on an exceedingly brief American tour of just two cities. Following its American debut last week with Cal Performances in Berkeley, the ensemble is finishing up its visit this week in Los Angeles. As difficult as the production can be — at times waves of restless rustlings

passed through the audience — the performance had the buzz of an event, and the audience recognized its privilege to be on hand for this first-and-final offering.

### Antisocial climbing

The most mesmerizing component of that privilege was unquestionably Martin Wuttke's performance as Arturo Ui, a renegade small-time Chicago gangster who bullies his way to the top. From his shocking entrances on all fours panting like a crazed animal through his comically awkward reinvention as a leader, Wuttke created a fascinating figure made up of tics and stutters and danger.

Wuttke's look and manner obviously suggested Hitler, which isn't always the case in productions of the play (and made rather superfluous and a bit hokey the Hitler speech that a hired local actor delivered from the roof of Zellerbach before and after the performance). Brecht wrote the play in 1941 while in exile in Finland, though he died three years before the Berliner Ensemble first produced *Arturo Ui* in 1959.

Time has dimmed the specifics of the parallels that Brecht was drawing, but the dynamics of an unstable tyrant's rise come through clearly even as Müller's staging regularly yanks us out of the reveries it has momentarily induced. An inadvertent distancing was created by the height of the super-titles screen on which translations were projected, often forcing a choice between text and imagery.

Brecht encouraged the reinvention of his works, and some of his German followers feel this production of *Arturo Ui* doesn't go far enough in shaking up the play. For American audiences, it probably pushes the edge just far enough. And as for the man who apparently just couldn't take it anymore, well, that probably would have made Brecht smile. ▼

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and then she said, "How much more crap can you fit into this place?" And I said, "Bitch" and walked away.



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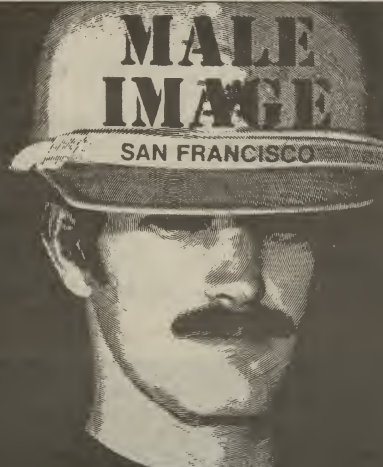
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## Killer opera-in-progress

Carla Lucero's 'Wuornos' at YBC

by Deborah Peifer

"I'll admit I had no interest whatever in seeing *Wuornos*, a new opera about the life of convicted lesbian serial killer Aileen Wuornos — that is, until I spoke with *Wuornos*' producer, Lauren Hewitt. Her enthusiasm convinced me that *Wuornos*, to be performed at Yerba Buena Center on July 17 as a work in progress, is definitely worth a listen.

The project began with Carla Lucero's residency at the Jon Sims Center. "We wanted to expand the works that were begun in the residency program. *Wuornos* was chosen for its brilliance," Hewitt says. "This is a full three-act opera, with 17 singers and a chamber orchestra. The music is beautiful, and I have to say that having two lesbians on stage during the first romantic scene, singing to each other, is pretty amazing."

Hewitt is quick to assert that "Aileen Wuornos is not a lesbian icon. But the abuse of women and children affects the whole society. Words alone fail, but music can bring these stories to light." Hewitt is not a fan of the elitism surrounding opera, and she hopes that the immediacy of the story and the reasonably priced tickets will bring a whole new audience to the opera. "If the big white opera house won't produce what we want to see, then we'll by god do it ourselves."

The Jon Sims Center expects *Wuornos* to be ready for a June 2000 world premiere in San Francisco. In the meantime, you can see the work in progress at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 3rd and Mission. A panel discussion on *Women in Opera*, moderated by SF Opera Musical Administrator, Clifford Cranna, featuring SF Opera director Sandra Bernhard, composer Pauline Oliveros, con-

Julie Queen and Karen Feder in Carla Lucero's new opera, *Wuornos*

ductor Sarah Jobin, and Carla Lucero takes place at Yerba Buena on July 15. Call 552-7709 for information.

## Imagine...

Director Angus Balbernie believes that "space provides possibilities." During his annual sojourn to the Bay Area, he works with local performers to create an original movement/theatre piece. Balbernie starts with the Scottish play, film noir, and bird imagery, and creates, with

the actors, a new piece called *A Thousand Gray Birds*. Composer Mark Growden provides an original sound score for voice, traditional and homemade instruments. Sounds like just the thing for a hot summer night. The show runs July 15-31 at Venue 9, 252 Ninth St. (at Folsom). When you call 289-2000 for information, ask about The Women's Work series, late night music, and other Venue 9 performances.

## Summertime...

The California Shakespeare Festival continues with *The Taming of the Shrew*, the play that asks the question, was Shakespeare an anti-Semite, or merely trying to capitalize on the success of his rival Christopher Marlowe's play, *The Jew of Malta*? There were no Jews in Elizabethan England, of course, owing to their expulsion generations earlier, but when a Christian with Jewish ancestors was accused of attempting to poison Queen Elizabeth, Jews became the object of popular revulsion, and Marlowe rushed into performance with a play about the most revolting character in literature, a Jew who gets his jollies from poisoning an entire convent. The play was wildly popular, and for reasons lost to history, Shakespeare added a Jewish character, and the Shylock/pound of flesh subplot, to a romance about a rich woman and her suitors.

The play's not the only thing at Cal Shakes. The company offers symposia on the plays, pre-show talks, and a pre-show tasting series. Kendall-Jackson Wines and Metropolis Baking Company are featured on July 28. Call (510) 548-9666 for information and reservations.

Summer wouldn't be summer without the Stern Grove Festival of free concerts. This season's highlights include an afternoon of jazz with Diana Krall on July 11, and *Women of Spirit at the Grove*, featuring Oumou Sangare, Mary Jane Lamond, and Janis Ian, on July 18. Sangare, Lamond and Ian will have "musical conversations" at various sites around the Bay Area. Call 252-6252 for information and dates, or visit [www.sterngrove.org](http://www.sterngrove.org).

## Finally

*Books by the Bay 1999* features readings by such queer icons as June Jordan, Jewelle Gomez, and Mary Wings. Here's a chance to meet and greet your favorite writers, buy a book or several from independent booksellers, and generally enjoy a great day at the Embarcadero. The celebration takes place on July 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 927-3937 for details. ▼

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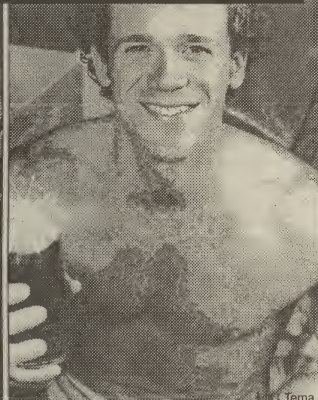
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## THEATRE

# Dispatches from the loft wars

## San Francisco Mime Troupe's 'City for Sale'

by Richard Dodds

There are no atheists in foxholes, and there are no yuppies at a performance by the San Francisco Mime Troupe. SUVs, silicon salaries, and loft-living take their hits in the Mime Troupe's new show, drawing cheers from a crowd that at least briefly becomes rabble ready to be roused.

Actually, *City for Sale*, which had its premiere in Dolores Park on the Fourth of July, is more layered in its approach to San Francisco's real-estate mania than you might expect from a troupe that has never been shy about its politics. The aggrieved aren't entirely blameless in Joan Holden and Kate Chumley's script, and the culprits aren't entirely straw dogs.

Even the mayor, a woman here but unmistakably modeled on Willie Brown, has moments of self-doubt about her pro-developer agenda. "I really wanted to be a mayor of the people," she says in an introspective moment, "but then the parties started."

The subject of real estate in San Francisco is a big target, but *City for Sale* zeroes in on artists' live-work lofts that have been sprouting in the industrial badlands South of Market. The play's one true villain is a ruthless developer who does everything but twiddle his mustache as he evicts poor artists to make way for high-salaried computer programmers.

But the shaggy musicians who are about to be evicted have their own role in the real-estate food chain. They made the area trendy, which has put pressure on the businesses that preceded them. They're complaining about the fumes from the nearby car-repair shop even while they rail against the newcomers who complain about their music.

### Blonde ambition

When a ditty but sweet trendie tries to buy part of their building for a loft development, they attack. "We don't like blondes unless you have dark roots showing on purpose," says their hotheaded leader. They take their cause to the mayor, whose sympathies evaporate when her business cronies reassert themselves, which leads the musicians to declare themselves squatters with an uncertain future.

The script is in the Mime Troupe tradition of broad humor and characters rooted in easily recognizable stereotypes. The structure is loose, and director Keiko Shimamoto's staging could also be tighter. But informality is an agreeable part of the Mime Troupe experience, and the performers always know what they're doing.

Stephanie Taylor gets two fun showcases, as the young "techno-serf" ready to move to SOMA, and as a husky-voiced tap-dance instructor. Velina Brown, padded in front and rear, plays the mayor with a canny haminess that scores some of the biggest laughs. There are suggestions of mockery in Victor Toman's performance as the hotheaded musician, which keeps his diatribes from becoming


merely polemics, and Bruce Barthol captures the gentle, drug-fried manner of a veteran musician. As the developer, Amos Glick easily earns his hisses.

*City for Sale* takes broad shots at a narrow target, which proves more effective than last year's flailing attack on HMOs in *Damaged Care*. The so-called artists' lofts are a local, addressable problem, but one that touches most people only indirectly. The Mime Troupe is doing its job by keeping it in sight, in mind. ▼

*City for Sale* will have performances this weekend at Cedar Rose Park in Berkeley, and will continue free performances at parks throughout the state through September. A schedule is available at [www.sfmt.org](http://www.sfmt.org) or by calling 285-1717.




The Mayor (Velina Brown) refuses to budge despite protests over residential development in *City for Sale*



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# Nuclear family goes berserk

Francois Ozon's black comedy 'Sitcom' opens

by Gary Morris

A few years ago, German director Wim Wenders caused a mini-scandal in some quarters for daring to criticize America's virtual takeover of Europe's cinema screens. (On average, those screens show anywhere from 80 to 90 percent US films.) He railed against "the

whole stars and stripes culture" that goes along with the films, fashions, Cokes, and god knows what else is overwhelming European traditions. If this process seems inevitable given the US insistence on "manifesting its destiny" even as a new millennium approaches, at least the Europeans can do a little payback by skewering American culture in their own films. This is one of the strategies behind Francois Ozon's black comedy *Sitcom*, which takes a "happy family" of the June and

manion in which "Happy Birthday" is being sung. The song ends midpoint, replaced by gunshots and screams. We don't see who's being honored or murdered, and a title card whisks us back "a few months" to show what led up to this mysterious apparent slaughter.

The French version of the Cleavers is seen sitting at dinner, chatting amiably. Daddy Jean talks *only* in clichés but seems nice enough; Sophie (Marina de Van) is the droll daughter, and her real-life sibling Nicholas (Adrien de

orgies — to the refrigerator to find zucchini for her son's "games." Meanwhile, Sophie has become a dominatrix in a wheelchair, forcing her very cute boyfriend to act like a dog; his reward for fetching her bone is to stick his head under her skirt and try to stimulate her dead nerves.

The film is so in love with these and its many other conceits that it works them to numbing excess. By the time Helene, vaguely upset that her son is gay, decides to turn him straight by

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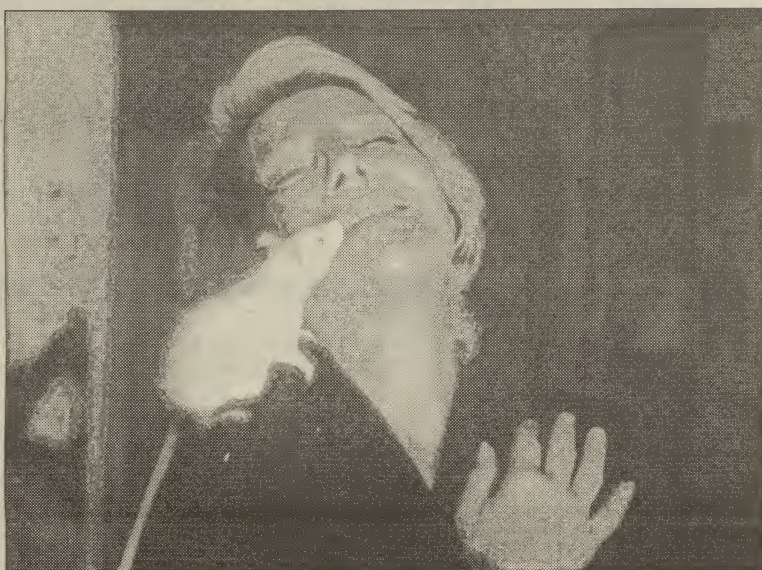


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Evelyne Dandry as Helene in Francois Ozon's *Sitcom*

Ward Cleaver type and turns them into a group of deviants who transgress every taboo from sadomasochism to homosexuality to incest and murder.

*Sitcom* played a couple of weeks ago at the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, and at the time it seemed a respectable attack on the bourgeois family à la Buñuel. A second viewing quickly dispatches the Buñuel connection; there's nothing that inspired here, after all, and the film has serious problems with shifting tones and even seems too long at a mere 85 minutes. That said, there are still enough diversions here to interest the jaded cineaste.

In the opening scene, a red velvet curtain parts to reveal a stately

Van) is bookish and harmless; and Helene (Evelyne Dandry, in a very fine performance) is Mother, presiding over all with a kind of brainless cheeriness.

When Daddy brings home a lab rat to keep as a pet, the sweet surface starts to crack. Under the rodent's spell, Sophie tries to kill herself and ends up a paraplegic. Nicholas suddenly announces he's a homosexual. The maid becomes increasingly feisty and foul-mouthed; asked to clean up, she screams, "Fuck off!" to her befuddled employer and continues disco-dancing. Helene bravely endures these radical changes, which continue apace. She even directs Nicholas's numerous tricks — he's quit school to host in-home

screwing him herself, some viewers will be too bored to notice. Typically, when Nicholas tells his sister he's fucked their mother, she's not at all upset, merely sarcastic: "Didn't your dick size disappoint her?" A last-minute *homage* to the 1950s mutated giant animal genre (think *Tarantula* or *Them!*) is beyond silly.

In spite of the sometimes amusing dialogue, and decent performances that survive (barely) the film's uncertain mix of camp and social comment, *Sitcom* finally sails over the top without taking us with it. ▼

**Sitcom opens Friday, July 9 at the Lumiere.**

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# Let them watch film!

by Erin Blackwell

Devotees of Marie-Antoinette will want to turn the other cheek this Bastille Day and hie themselves to the Bridge Theater, where Simone Signoret holds court, one day only, in *Casque d'Or* (1952). The "golden helmet" of the title is the heroine's coiffure, which leads men to their death.

Signoret, mostly remembered for later films (*Ship of Fools*, *Madame Rosa*) in which she was stout, husky-voiced and indomitable, is here revealed to have been svelte, luscious and indomitable. As Marie, the putain with a heart of gold, Signoret physically overpowers leading man Serge Reggiani, as the carpenter with a taste for vigilante justice. As romantic leads, both of them live outside the Hollywood norm, and they look all the happier for it.

Director Jacques Becker's *chef d'oeuvre* is equal parts *noir* and fond *homage* to the Belle Époque, when Parisians spent their Sundays rowing on the Seine



Simone Signoret (center) stars in Jacques Becker's *Casque d'Or*

in tight-fitting checked suits. The ensemble cast includes Claude Dauphin as the Evil Wine Merchant, rendered even more vile by a gorgeous new print. Just the film if you're looking to improve your *argot* (slang) with such perennials as: *ta gueule* (your mug), *déqueu-*

*lasse* (disgusting), and the heavily ironic *pauvre mec* (poor man). ▼

*Casque d'Or* screens at the Bridge on Wed., July 14 at 7 p.m., in a benefit for the SF Film Society. Call 931-FILM.

## Silent Film Fest

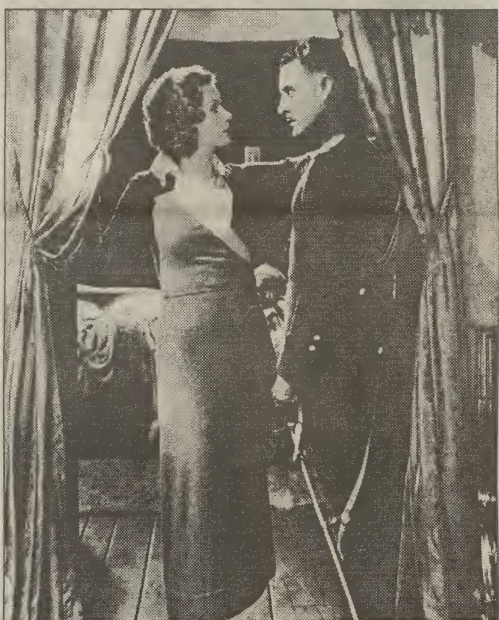
◀ Arts cover

lowed Garbo and costar/boyfriend John Gilbert's wildly successful *Flesh and the Devil*, but it's the more emotionally rewarding work. Goulting, who was gay and knew how to work a diva, lavishes most of his attention on Garbo, lingering on her love scenes with Gilbert and, even more intensely, on her unbreakable relationship with her adored son. MGM's Imperial Russia is one of the studio's most opulent creations from this time, with rich costumerie, wild sleigh rides, horse races, military parades, and society parties populated by handsome military men and wealthy gossiping matrons.

The ever-sensitive studio shot two endings for *Love*: one, aimed at European audiences, was true to Tolstoy's novel, with his tragic heroine stumbling in front of a train; the other, devised by Francis Marion for more squeamish (or doltish) American viewers, is a traditional, if not entirely believable happy ending. The kind souls at the Silent Film Festival will ask viewers to vote on which ending they want to see; I'd demand both!

### Go with the floe

MGM always excelled at offering upscale fantasy versions of historical events and foreign locales, and purists may bristle at the idea that the Russia in *Love* is in any way realistic. Such objectors are directed to the next film in the series, pioneering montage-ist Lev Kuleshov's 1926 *Po Zakonu* (*By the Law*). This claustrophobic horror story set in the Yukon was shot in Russia against a backdrop of tremendous ice floes and rushing storms. Based on a Jack London short story, *Po Zakonu* features spectacular natural settings, but narrows its focus to a small, rickety cabin in which most of the action takes place. The "action" is a group of goldminers plying their trade when one of them turns, murdering two others, then being captured and put on trial by the two remaining. Kuleshov is a show-offy director who was then eager to put his theories about montage and a distinctive kind of



Greta Garbo and John Gilbert in *Love* (1927)

"film acting" into play. The result is uneven but often powerful in isolating unhinged mental states and dwarfing his characters in a vicious, violent Nature that parallels their own uncontrollable "natural" urges.

Finishing out the fest is William Wellman's World War I drama *Wings* (1927). Made the same year as *Love*, despite the differences in setting and scope, it covers some of the same emotional terrain with equal intensity. This film, which won the first Academy Award for Best Picture, is remembered by many for its extraordinary aerial combat scenes, but equally successful is Wellman's introduction of comic sequences (both broad and subtle) and a profound homoerotic relationship between two pilots (Richard Arlen and Charles "Buddy" Rogers, both wonderful) allegedly vying for the same girl. (Unbelievably, they choose the dull Jobyna Ralston over the dynamo Clara Bow, though their most potent emotional moments

are saved for each other.) While the epic dogfights — staged authentically in movies for the first time, per Wellman's demand — retain their freshness and power, some viewers will respond more to the sheer intensity of Arlen and Rogers' feelings for each other. In a devastating scene near the end, Rogers cradles his dying pal in his arms, smoothing his hair and, overcome by emotion, even kissing him. *Wings* has been called "the silent *Star Wars*" by some commentators, for its then-breakthrough aerial effects, its "boy's own story" aura, its grand heroics and sacrifices. But *Star Wars* lacks not just the homoerotic spark implied in the material, but any of the feeling of authentic emotion that *Wings* has in splendid, unapologetic abundance. ▼

The SF Silent Film Festival returns to the Castro Theatre for its fourth annual installment on Sunday, July 11. Call for info: 552-2075.

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# Sham rock

by Will Shank

*Velvet Goldmine*  
Written and directed by Todd Haynes (Miramax)

Todd Haynes' nostalgic trip down memory lane into England's glam rock world of the late '60s and early '70s arrives at a dead end by its first reel. Although Jonathan Rhys Meyers makes a stunningly androgynous Brian Slade (in much the way that Stephen Dorff was a gorgeous Candy Darling in *I Shot Andy Warhol*), he, and the entire cast of glittering characters, fall short of emotionally engaging the viewer. The relationship between Slade and his fellow male diva Ewan McGregor as Curt Wild is titillating, and the film looks gorgeous



Jonathan Rhys Meyers in Todd Haynes' *Velvet Goldmine*

(Sandy Powell's costumes were nominated for an Oscar).

But if there was any dramatic tension in the world of David Bowie and Iggy Pop, it does not come across in this glittery but surprisingly bland film. The contrived plot about the mystery of whether or not a pop star feigned his own death is not sufficient grounds for a screenplay. As one of the vacant characters notes about halfway through, "The first duty in life is to assume a pose. What the second duty is no one has yet found out!"

We have come to expect more from Todd Haynes, whose *Poison* and *Safe* were true originals. One footnote: in a bit of perverse casting, straight drag performer Eddie Izzard appears as Jerry Devine, a man.

*Bent*  
Screenplay by Martin Sherman, based on his play; directed by Sean Mathias (Orion Home Video)

*Bent*, which started life as an essentially two-character Broadway play, seems at first glance to be an extremely unlikely property to transfer to the screen. It is also an extraordinary gay love story. But it lives in my memory mostly because of an interview with Richard Gere (who appeared in the New York production) in which he stated that if the script had called him to suck the other actor off, he would have. *Bent* spends most of its second half mired in the existential angst of Dachau, and it is as light an



A scene from *Bent*

evening as a visit from Oskar Schiller.

But the movie version is, in its early scenes, somewhat enlivened by cameos by Sir Ian McKellan as the "fluff" Uncle Freddie; Rupert Graves, cast against type as a sadistic Nazi soldier; and Mick Jagger as Greta, an unscrupulous and exceptionally unattractive grandmotherly drag act. The static Broadway play is actually improved by the Philip Glass soundtrack, as well as by consistently imaginative camerawork, and by the surreal touches of director Mathias, who parades what appear to be extras from a Fellini set in and out of the early scenes in Gay Old Berlin. French-Canadian actor Lothaire Bluteau (previously seen as a tormented Jesuit priest in 1991's *Black Robe*) and Brit Clive Owen are excellent as an unlikely gay couple whose "job" is to carry rocks endlessly back and forth in the hell forced upon them by their Nazi captors. And in the most unlikely setting (a sort of *Cabaret* meets *Waiting for Godot*), love blooms. ▼

## ...on the Range

◀ Arts cover

of his best performances as the tormented Jeb Rand, a good kid who grows up with a neurosis as big as Monument Valley, thanks to a childhood trauma. The film could be shown in a psychology class as an example of reliving a trauma in order to conquer it, but that sounds too clinical for this riveting melodrama that also benefits from Judith Anderson as Jeb's equally tortured stepmother, Teresa Wright as the feisty stepsister he courts, and Dean Jagger as an avenging Fury obsessed with killing Rand.

### Strong women

Fans of the byways of the genre treasure *Johnny Guitar* (1954) for its vision of women in the Old West duking it out while the men sit helplessly on the sidelines. Roger Corman made three low-budget westerns in this role-reversal mode a year or two later; the rarest of these is *Oklahoma Woman* (1956). Corman's notorious cheapness makes this an amusing diversion; the sets are threadbare, and as always, the acting is all over the map. ("You're a heavy; be a heavy" was Corman's typical direction to a befuddled actor.) Peggie Castle stars as Marie; like Joan Crawford in *Johnny Guitar*, she's a saloon slut who screws her way to owning the saloon and the town. Trouble comes when her ex-con boyfriend returns and takes up with the local goody-goody, who eventually tangles with Marie in a catfight that wrecks the saloon and topples Marie's evil career.

Even campier is Warhol's *Lonesome Cowboys* (1967). Where Corman's film was a model of economy at a mere 71 minutes,



Robert Mitchum, Teresa Wright, and Judith Anderson in *Pursued*

Warhol's western is ridiculously expansive and meandering, 110 minutes of a bunch of drag queens, fag hags, and homosexual cowpokes wrestling, pinching each other's nipples, practicing their ballet steps, and looking for a hairdresser under every tumbleweed. Taylor Mead is hilarious as Viva's perpetually stoned male nurse, who tries vainly to "protect" (too strong a word) her from the vague attentions of Joe Dallesandro, Eric Emerson, Tom Hupertz, and the rest of the hunky queens of the range. Warhol's demented version of the Old West caught the attention of the FBI when locals complained that somebody was being raped. Not to worry, though — as in all of Warhol's work, these "boys" can only get it up for a mirror.

The western got a shot of adrenaline when Sergio Leone and Eastwood joined forces for *Fistful of Dollars* (1964). This classic spawned innumerable variants, three of which are being shown in

this series. Unfortunately, none were available for previewing, but they sound promising indeed. *The Big Gundown* (1966) features the always creepy Lee Van Cleef in pursuit of a murderer-rapist along the US-Mexican border. *Death Rides a Horse* (1969) stars Van Cleef and the fetching John Philip Law at the height of his beauty; this time they're chasing down a bunch of ruthless killers. Both films feature reputedly fabulous Ennio Morricone scores. Finally, there's the intriguingly titled *Don't Touch the White Woman!* (1974), with a knockout cast including Catherine Deneuve, Marcello Mastroianni, Ugo Tognazzi, and Michel Piccoli playing the undoubtedly crucial role of "a swishy Buffalo Bill." ▼

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# Beneath the glittering surfaces

Talking with 'An Ideal Husband' director Oliver Parker

by David Lamble

On the night London detectives arrested Oscar Wilde on the charge of committing "indecent acts," a contemporary of Wilde's noted in a letter "that six hundred gentlemen had crossed from Dover to Calais... when normally only sixty would have done so." In the West End, two of Wilde's plays, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *An Ideal Husband*, were playing to sold-out houses. Wilde's name was removed from the marquees, and shortly afterwards, both productions closed. As his friend Robert Ross scrambled to preserve Wilde's latest manuscripts from his enemies, a drunken Wilde was carted off to disgrace, exile, an early death and, irony of ironies, an immortality shared by few of his contemporaries.

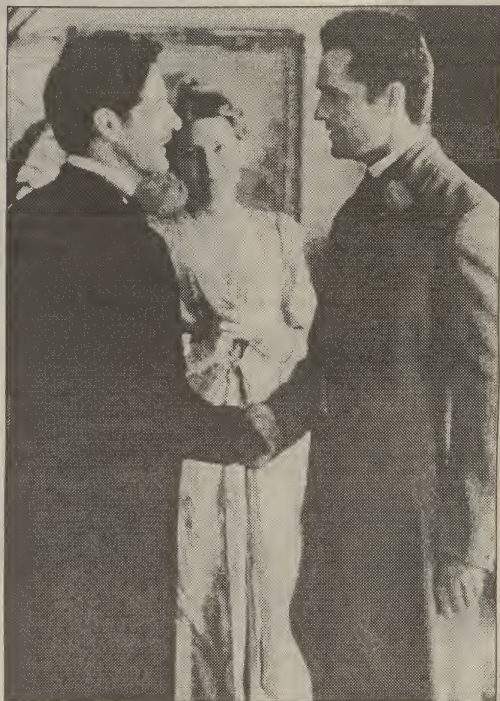
British filmmaker Oliver Carter was having a tough night at the theatre. Offered a chance to helm a screen version of *An Ideal Husband* nearly a century after its untimely demise, Carter caught a performance of Sir Peter Hall's West End revival. He found himself roaring with laughter at Wilde's send-up of the political scandal threatening to sink the career of a *fin de siècle* British politician, and ending his marriage to a too proper wife. But he had his doubts about whether modern filmgoers would get much more than the rapier edge of Wilde's wit. In a recent interview, Carter told the *BAR*: "I thought, 'This is just a number of Oscars on stage coming up with very interesting and clever things, but I'm not really that involved.'"

Carter found himself reading and rereading *An Ideal Husband* to see if he could find some real heart beneath the play's glittering if brittle surface. The more he read, the more Carter felt that *An Ideal Husband* was really two plays uneasily joined together.

"I discovered in my research that it was written in two parts," he said. "It seemed a slightly uncomfortable mixture of melodrama and farce, so part of my job was to change it to a mix of drama and romantic comedy. The comedy needed to be less ironic, and you needed to care more about the characters. Wilde was in some senses satirizing the politician and his wife, while audiences today needed to sympathize more with Sir Robert and his wife and get involved with their dilemmas — why they were such prisoners of the Victorian code of honor. Wilde felt he had to attack the hypocrisies of the society that would ironically destroy him. We can now take a different slant."

## Dream cast

Carter felt that the secret of translating Wilde for a film audience would be to assemble a dream cast, five actors "who were smart enough to be able to think those thoughts and say those words so they sounded like their own, rather than Oscar's." Carter says Wilde has to be given most of the credit for attracting the all-star cast: Jeremy Northam, Rupert Everett, Cate Blanchett, Julianne Moore and Minnie Driver. "Most actors, when they hear there's a piece with Wilde's dialogue, are going to be tempted because they know they're going to get something



Jeremy Northam, Cate Blanchett, and Rupert Everett in Oliver Parker's film adaptation of the Oscar Wilde play, *An Ideal Husband*

more substantial to play with."

Minnie Driver got a quick nod for her work in *Good Will Hunting* and *Grosse Pointe Blank*, and the fact she was a friend of the film's producer Barnaby Thompson greased the wheels a bit. "Minnie felt that Mable [fiancée to Sir Arthur Goring (Rupert Everett)] was a difficult part, in that it's a smaller role than the others. She has to come on and claim the screen. And you need somebody of a sufficiently sizable personality who can stand up to Rupert, because he has so many of the great scenes and the great lines."

"And then, Julianne Moore was a great boon. In casting this sensational American, I wanted to break the British stranglehold on the piece. [She's] somebody who really can get to grips with the emotional reality of the character, and I like stirring that up with someone like Rupert, who's done Wilde but has a completely different background from Julianne."

"And then Cate Blanchett comes in — my goodness, what a bit of luck! She rose to the challenge of that character [Gertrude, Sir Robert's wife, who has to decide whether to ignore a scandal from her husband's past or let it destroy their marriage], who's often seen as the antagonist in the story. She can come across as a real pain, as somebody who's stopping everyone having a good time. After all, she's the object of the play's satire and of Wilde's more cutting wit. I felt for the audience to root for her, they had to believe that here was a person who believed she had to do what her society said was the right thing, and yet whose heart was telling her something else."

Carter chuckles over a deliciously improbable coincidence of the casting process. Jeremy Northam, who as *An Ideal Husband*'s Sir Robert Chiltern has to make a climactic speech in the 1890s version of the House of

choice, because he doesn't want to get stuck in a wing collar. He's an immensely talented actor who has a good time coming, because there's more to him than most people are aware of."

In the end, Carter was struck by the paradox of Oscar Wilde, so much a man of his own time, and yet a man who seems so completely at home in our own era. A man who was punished for refusing to bow before the hypocrisies of Victorian society, in particular concerning the conventions surrounding male friendship. "There wasn't a concept of 'gay' in that respect, and it wasn't even considered that strange that men, particularly in the upper classes, would be together. I think his downfall came because he was more open, and he was incredibly eloquent in describing all the things Victorians

had been hiding."

In a funny way, *An Ideal Husband* is an *Odd Couple*-like buddy picture, with the reality of Wilde's personal life eventually sully the joke for Victorian Society. Now they had to admit that perhaps there might be a sexual dynamic behind the facade of male friendship. In some ways, Wilde marks the beginning of modern gender politics, and he — like his contemporary, George Bernard Shaw, who reviewed *An Ideal Husband* for a London paper — was trying to provide a blueprint for the future war between the sexes. Carter concludes, "I think there are so many ways in which Wilde stands out as a modern man. He himself obviously suffered a great tragedy as a consequence of it, but I think he has illuminated the lives of many people ever since." ▼

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# From Russia with love

## Conductor Yuri Temirkanov leads the San Francisco Symphony

by Stephanie von Buchau

It is irrational but understandably human to wish that our artistic heroes were also good people. Alas, from Richard Wagner's anti-Semitism to Francis Bacon's emotional terrorism, it ain't necessarily so. Conductor Yuri Temirkanov, who is currently leading the San Francisco Symphony in two all-Russian programs for the "Summer in the City" series at Davies Hall (July 8 and 15), is the exception that proves the rule.

A gentle, witty humanist adored by the orchestras he leads, Temirkanov is also the most electrifying symphonic and opera conductor before the public today. His *Eugene Onegin* at the San Francisco Opera two seasons ago was the most emotionally satisfying production from that company since the War Memorial reopened. The 60-year-old conductor (born in Nalchik in the Caucasus, he is ethnic Kabardian rather than Russian) galvanizes audiences as easily as he seduces orchestras.

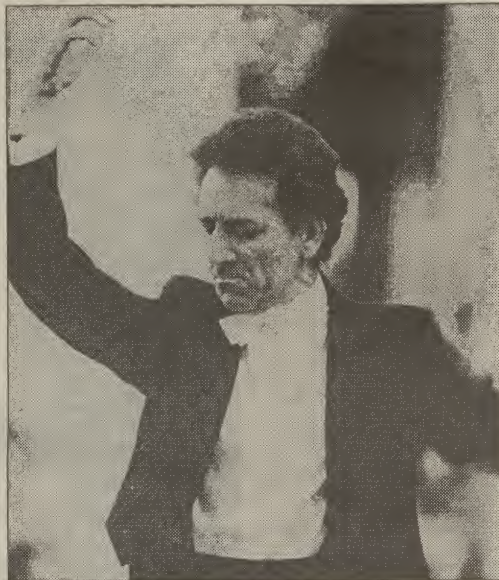
When he appeared in San

Francisco as guest conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1990, his *Pictures at an Exhibition* not only sounded like a freshly-minted composition, it caused a minor riot amongst listeners who hadn't been alerted by advance hype to respond that way. An SFS official, now fortunately departed, sneered to me as I was wiping myself off the seat, "He sure gave the audience a hand job!" Having suffered through a decade of dryly precise performances by Herbert Blomstedt, I retorted: "Isn't that what conductors are supposed to do?"

Temirkanov's teacher, the nonagenarian Ilya Musin, who also taught Russia's other hot maestro, Valery Gergiev, says of his prize pupil, "Temirkanov is artistic, but very emotional; he has temperament, imagination and beautiful hands." If you've seen Temirkanov conduct, you know that he eschews a baton, sculpting the music with his expressive fingers. One of my favorite Temirkanov moments — and I've been watching him since his San Francisco Symphony debut in 1975 — was a 1994 rehearsal of *Sheherazade*. The time clock ran out, the union rep stood up officiously to call a halt mid-bar, and Temirkanov and the orchestra went right on playing, so concentrated were they on the musical moment.

### The real thing

Nancy Bean, the Philadelphia Orchestra's assistant concertmaster, says, "There is not a phony bone in his body." Gerry Walther, SFS's principal viola, who sits directly under Temirkanov's right hand when he is conducting, explains this maestro's appeal in terms any string player can understand. She says simply, "He plays the viola." That was Temirkanov's instrument at the then-Leningrad Conservatory, from which he graduated in 1965.



Conductor Yuri Temirkanov

He won the 1967 National Conducting Competition, ran the Maly Theater in St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Symphony (not to be confused with the famous Philharmonic). He was named head of the Kirov (now Maryinsky) Theater, where one of his surprise hires was the young Gergiev.

In 1988, Temirkanov got the post he still holds and presumably wanted the most, the glorious Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) Philharmonic, long ruled by the legendary autocrat, Evgeny Mravinsky. In addition, Temirkanov is principal guest conductor of London's Royal Philharmonic, with which he recorded my favorite Rachmaninoff Second Symphony (EMI Classics). This season he takes over from David Zinman as music director of the Baltimore Symphony. Why Baltimore? Temirkanov likes the idea that they will let him conduct Beethoven, Mahler, Elgar, French music, rather than the steady stream of Russian classics demanded of him at guest appearances.

One understands his artistic frustration — especially since he is an imaginative Mahler conductor — yet Temirkanov leads Russian music like nobody else today. His Rimsky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky and especially Shostakovich throb with the kind of communicative emotion that frightens as many listeners as it enraptures. (His Shostakovich Sixth with the St. Pete here in 1993 was mesmerizing; he's just recorded it for BMG Classics. His "Babi Yar" with SFS in 1996 was the most convincing performance of that strange work I've ever heard live or on disc.)

In his first two-week stint with SFS in 1975, listeners responded spontaneously to his Mahler First and "Pathétique," though they had no idea who this willowy, balletic young man was. It's called "communication," and it scared the pants off the *Chronicle's* then-critic, who complained that Temirkanov reminded him of Herbert von Karajan. (Slamming Karajan was a favorite sport of critics, many of whom had never

heard the Austrian maestro live and got all their misinformation from recordings.) Actually, Temirkanov reminds me of Karajan, too, but not because of his conducting technique. Both conductors hear something in music that seems worth their lives to transmit to us. They would be the first to tell you that they seldom succeed in getting that celestial sound out of their inner ear, yet the superhuman effort is what excites sympathetic listeners.

It is nice to know, however, that in addition to being an exciting conductor, Temirkanov is one of the good guys. (Karajan was a legendary "bad man.") Temirkanov repeatedly tweaked Soviet authorities by playing music they didn't approve of, and he once paid his own train and hotel fees to Moscow so he could lead the world premiere of Rodion Shchedrin's opera, *Dead Souls*, at the Bolshoi. Seventeen years ago, he resigned his faculty post at the Leningrad Conservatory because the newly appointed rector was anti-Semitic. My favorite non-musical Temirkanov story tells of his swift return to St. Petersburg from a conducting gig in London when he heard that his shabby apartment building was being sold to developers.

Temirkanov organized a successful tenant revolt to save the building where he had lived for many years in three rooms. A Baltimore *Sun* correspondent who visited the conductor shortly after he got the BSO post reported that the apartment is stacked wall-to-wall with books, including Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Pushkin, Turgenyev, Chekhov, Shakespeare, Dante and Goethe — in the original languages as well as in translation. Temirkanov told the reporter, "The most important part of my life — even music is not as important — are these books." How can you not love a guy like that? ▼

Yuri Temirkanov conducts the San Francisco Symphony on July 8 ("A Russian Spectacular") and July 15 ("Tchaikovsky's Treasures"). Call 864-6000.

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## MUSIC



Diana Krall

# Jazz baby

Diana Krall, queen of the road

by Robert Julian

Speaking from the Grand Traverse Resort, in Traverse City, Michigan, where she is performing at the famed Interlochen School of Music, Diana Krall is on a roll. She's booked into a series of back-to-back telephone interviews, and when I mention her July 11 Stern Grove concert, she has to pull out her datebook to freshen her memory. With the release of her new

album, *When I Look in Your Eyes*, Krall's career is in high gear, but life as the jazz baby of the moment has its challenges.

Robert Julian: How many engagements will you play this year?

Diana Krall: This year, 300 gigs? I don't know, ask my publicist. I'm just trying to get through July.

You are arguably the hottest name in jazz right now, and in the last two years, your profile in the business has become much more prominent. How does this change the pressures placed on you?

I don't see it as pressure, I see it as a challenge. It's an unpredictable thing, you have to adjust with the changes, it's all of a sudden very intense. I try to take care of my health, exercise, find a balance, run with it, and have a good time.

If you weren't a jazz vocalist/musician, what career would you choose?

I hope I wouldn't have to do that — maybe a great chef, or an Indiana Jones-type explorer.

At what point in your life did you realize that music would be your career?

I don't think I ever thought about it, it was something I always knew.

Of the songs in your repertoire, which is the most technically difficult to perform?

I don't know. Every one has its own set of challenges. I look at them as more of a vulnerable, emotional challenge than a technical one. I'm not a very technical person.

When you perform, I feel you're just one of the musicians.

Vocalists should see themselves as

musicians. It's a drag when people separate vocalists from musicians. When I'm talking to students, I always tell them we should be playing with each other and trusting each other. I'm not the person up front; I like to play the piano.

In live performances, you don't engage in small talk and you don't reveal much about yourself, which makes Diana Krall, the woman, something of an enigma. Is that the way you want it?

Well, I'm a private person, and I'm a fairly shy person; it's just how I am. In Europe, I saw where they refer to me as "the Ice Queen," and that really hurt, because I don't think I'm that way at all. But it takes me a while to open up to people. Maybe it's something of a Canadian thing. When I play, I just like to make it the way it was around my house, with everyone sitting down and playing and singing for each other. I never wanted to be the big star or anything.

I have one last thing to ask, and it's pretty pushy. Would you consider opening the Stern Grove show with your rendition of "I Love Being Here With You?"

Oh, Robert, that's a great idea. Thanks for suggesting it, really. I've been opening with "Errand Girl for Rhythm" for quite a while now, but I used to open with "I Love Being Here With You." I'd forgotten what a great opener that is — it's a Peggy Lee song, you know. She wrote it. I have a new band with me on this tour, and I'll sit down with them and see what we can do. ▼

Diana Krall and her quartet perform Sunday, July 11 at 2 p.m. at Stern Grove. Admission is free, but those who wish to attend should arrive early to assure seating.

## Transformer

'Let Yourself Go: Fred Hersch at Jordan Hall'

by Michael McDonagh

Jazz pianist Fred Hersch has often been compared to Bill Evans (1929-1980). And though that's a useful comparison, it's not quite the whole story. Hersch may indeed be a predominantly lyric player like Evans, but he can also swing. His new solo album, *Let Yourself Go* (None-such), also proves that there are more kinds of poetry to lyric playing than just plain "pretty." Recorded live at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music (his alma mater), this CD is somewhat inward in tone. Though we generally expect this in a live date, Hersch's playing has enough color to overcome the perceived limits of the solo recital form. His brand of intimacy isn't as obviously passionate as, say, Keith Jarrett's, but it's still fresh, and full of surprise.

Who would have ever thought of combining the traditional "Black Is the Color" with "The Love Theme from *Spartacus*?" Well, Hersch has. He blends the first, which has been covered by everyone from Burl Ives to Nina Simone, with Alex North's sturdy and affecting tune. This results in a study in complementary opposites: the hymnlike "Black" yields to a waltz version of North's original lullabylike 6/8 melody, until both sound equally timeless. The Mozart of film composers — don't miss his score to *The Bad Seed* at its special July 16 showing at the Castro Theatre — North wrote an indelible theme which Hersch, like

Evans before him, explores with great sensitivity and depth.

Hersch shows his command of musical styles in several numbers. The title tune by Irving Berlin becomes a compendium of jazz idioms from Tin Pan Alley to bop. Hersch's version of Kurt Weill's ballad "Speak Low" from the 1943 show *One Touch of Venus* is almost a case study in the variety of rhythms and harmonies he has at his fingertips. But his cover of the Alec Wilder tune "Moon and Sand" doesn't have the classicism that Hersch brought to it in his duo album with the Manhattan Transfer's Janis Siegel of *Slow Hot Wind* (Varese Sarabande). This one moves from a minimalist groove to a driving accumulation of colors and references. Hersch's lovely elegy, "...departed," however, would probably have benefited from a simpler, less style-conscious approach. Sometimes knowledge is just knowledge.

But knowing doesn't impede two of the best-played tunes here



Fred Hersch

— Gershwin's "I Loves You, Porgy" (another Evans staple) and Hoagy Carmichael's "The Nearness of You." The first gets an extra tender cover, while the latter could be read as a rumination on love as viewed through style. Still, it's the powerfully honest simplicity of North's theme which goes straight to the heart, and Hersch is a better musician when his playing seems to meet that honesty. The recorded sound is good as far as it goes — sharp highs win out over delicacy, and the drier, more percussive moments are almost grating. But this is a common problem with the digital process, and always vexing in pianos, caught live or in the studio. ▼

## Heard Hersch?

As a concerned HIV-positive gay person, Hersch has recorded two CDs to benefit the AIDS fundraiser "Classical Action." They are *Last Night When We Were Young*, and *The Duo Album*, available through Classical Action/Broadway Cares, Equity Fights AIDS: 1-800-216-ACTION.

Among other Hersch recordings of note, his Johnny Mandel album, *I Never Told You*, on Varese Sarabande, is especially exquisite. ▼

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# Christmas in July

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Everything old is new again — or so the networks would have us believe. As a La Niña-inspired heat wave grips the

nation, we're being treated to last season's winter shows — those that didn't fare so well the first time around and those we loved so much we just *must* see them again and again and... All those Santas are enough to really raise

one's temperature.

A few new items are on the docket, however, with at least one worth a peek. In their attempts to find a home for that very expensive wandering anchor, Connie Chung, ABC offers *Vanished*, a kind of thinking person's *Unsolved Mysteries*. True tales of the disappeared — by choice or by force, *Vanished* will appeal to those who love *Mystery* and *Court TV*. It's an intriguing combination of the two. The first episode was riveting, the second less so; it airs Thursdays at 10 p.m. and makes a nice break from reruns of *ER*, which has become one of the most overrated shows on any network; reruns only reinforce how big a wound George Clooney gouged when he left the ensemble. Code blue. You know the show is crashing when promos are airing in July for the September spin-off — a sudsy version of *Rescue 911*.

While so much on the tube, especially the lavender aspects — few though they are — are overrated, *underrated* in the TV lineup has been the fast-growing sport of women's soccer, which has really taken off this year and hits its apex this month. Unlike the hooligans that define men's soccer, the women play with style,

grace and an amazing athleticism that has nothing to do with mangling their opponents — except on the scoreboard. (Love USA's Shannon MacMillan.) Not unlike the WNBA, these girls really know how to take the ball and run with it. They've got even the most jaded good-ol'-boy sportscasters sounding enthused, and no one has uttered the "D" word yet (give it time). If you're a gal who likes a girl in uniform, tune in. We expect to see a Dinah Shore Soccer Invitational any day now, though white will be optional.

White is never optional at Wimbledon, and neither is scandal. Once again, the old men of tennis were a complete yawn — slice, slice, slice — but the girls were fabulous. And, true to Wimbledon form, we were treated to the *scandale du jour*: tennis phenom Alexandra Stevenson was revealed as the love child of basketball great Julius Erving, proving that sports royals can be as philanthropically problematic as the House of Windsor. One thing we'll say for Stevenson — she certainly inherited her father's genes. Perhaps one court is much like the next.

Speaking of mixed doubles and love matches, the Fresh Prince of Bel Air, AKA the King of Independence Day weekend, Will Smith, had some interesting tidbits to share with network tabloids like *Access Hollywood* this week. As his much-anticipated *Wild Wild West* debuted to mixed reviews, Smith

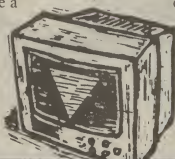
ly, the soaps did their usual good job of exposing the AIDS Day of Compassion. Though we are acutely tired of the little red ribbons, there was more going on than just the sporting of the badge of the movement. Casey took the self-absorbed Sarah through South Bay Hospital's AIDS ward on *Sunset Beach*, *One Life to Live* gave a little lecture, and so on. Of

course what we *really* would have liked to see is some discussion of safe sex in the land that condoms forgot, but that might be injecting a little too much reality in that unreality zone.

Speaking of reality versus the soaps, *Pas-*

*sions* debuts this week — now is the time to start inundating NBC with calls for queer characters. Since Kevin Sheffield exited *All My Children* in a haze of obscurity after having one of the biggest queer storylines in soap history, no queers have moved into any soap village. Kitsch and camp, *oui*, but queers, *mais non*.

Too bad the interest generated in *Another World* in the show's final days wasn't exhibited before it got the ax. Other soaps are vying to pick up the most discarded cast members from the recently canned NBC soap. ABC seems to have won the draw, adding fashion maven Linda Dano (no, she is *not* a drag queen, she's simply tall with a very strong jawline) to their cast. We're on the watch for AW's other fabu lady, Judy Evans Luciano, to turn up in



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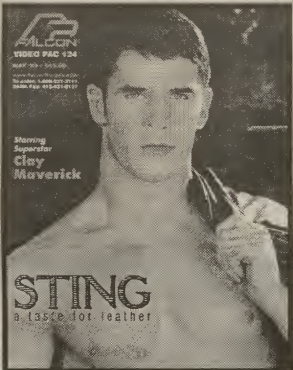
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**Will Smith had his own spin on the use of a butt double in 'Wild West,' telling all that his 'pert, happy butt' simply would have been too much for the fans, and so a more sedate butt was edited in.**

was detailing his work on the film for all and sundry. It seems the powers-that-be decided to use a butt double (could we make this up?) for Smith, who apparently wasn't getting jiggy enough with it. But the Prince had his own spin, telling all that his "pert, happy butt" simply would have been too much for the fans, and so a more sedate butt was edited in. Okay ... spend much time admiring your own ass, or just practicing to be one? Smith also noted that getting naked on screen is more his wife's (Jada Pinkett) scene than his. "Jada's *always* getting naked" in her films, he noted, sounding proud. Yes but *queers* are the ones who flaunt ourselves, don't you know.

## Overexposure

While we're on the subject of flaunting, Camryn Manheim, our fave gal from ABC's *The Practice*, is in danger of becoming overexposed. Between touting her new autobiography and strutting the catwalk in high fashion for fat chicks, she seems to be everywhere. No puns intended here, but we are beginning to think less is more. Though we do have one query: Why does she always look so glam on the talk and tabloid circuit and so, well, drab on *The Practice*?

Shifting gears ever so graceful-

Llanview, Pine Valley or Oakdale. Stay tuned.

And in the category of what always rises when it comes to television, George Stephanopoulos has finally found a real job. When he isn't filling in (and looking ridiculous as a Michael J. Fox wannabe) for vacationing anchors on ABC's *Good Morning America*, he is spending time on the queer and campy *World News Now* in the middle of the night. Revelatory moments abound on this show (but is Gloria Vanderbilt *really* the mother of anchor Anderson Cooper?). Steph dropped the beads that Bob Woodward cornered him (no, not that way) more than once while he was Press Secretary and manipulated him into telling all. "You don't realize what you've done until you read it the next day and feel like throwing up," Steph admitted. And how did you feel when your own book hit the stands, Steph? Or did the hefty advance quell the nausea?

Finally, our hoot of the day came from homophobe and demagogue Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), who told NBC's *Meet the Press* last Sunday that at one point he was so poor he lived in a chicken coop with his wife. And we thought that Mormon protective underwear was kinky. Cluck, cluck. ▼

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# Finding the Gooch within

by Brandon Judell

Imagine a novel about a beautiful male model turned writer whose great epic about gay life in the '70s turns out to be a disaster. Desperate, he decides to make a quick killing by penning a self-help guide for homosexuals that has all the depth of a *Cosmo* article.

Such a work of fiction could be a great satire, a scathing, hilarious look at gay life as it confronts the new millennium. Imagine Nabokov's *Pale Fire* for nonacademics.

Unfortunately, Brad Gooch's *Find the Boyfriend Within: A Practical Guide For Tapping Into Your Own Source of Love, Happiness, and Respect* (Simon & Schuster) is a humorless, self-aggrandizing work of nonfiction without a shred of humility or insight into how such a book will come off to its readers.

For those you not in the know — and don't permit Mr. Gooch to learn you haven't heard of him — this author is a model-turned-writer whose efforts have been met with mixed results. *Scary Kisses*, his overlooked novel about a male model's angst, is a terrific read. His biography of the poet Frank O'Hara, *City Poet*, was acclaimed in many quarters, except in *The New Yorker*, where the homophobic reviewer felt Gooch dwelt too much on O'Hara's sex life. Then came *The Golden Age of Promiscuity*. What was heralded to be the first great literary epic about hedonistic gay life in the '70s was universally attacked as dreadful.

So what easier way to make an easy comeback than to quickly compose a self-help book? You get a big advance, and you only have to fill 171 pages. Not even. Your publisher will use very wide margins on the tops, bottoms and sides of every page, plus there's enough space between each sentence so everyone can read between the lines — in this case, the result being there's nothing here except unbridled ego.

The book begins: "Here's the situation: I'm in my midforties. Everyone says I look ten years younger, more or less." Even so, Brad has problems. His lover of eleven years, Howard, died from AIDS in '89, and since then Brad had to satisfy himself with unsat-

isfactory sex. "But as the guidebooks say, sex isn't love. And neither, I might add, is curiosity. Or acquisitiveness. Or style."

## Special effects

Sadly, the constantly-laid Brad was distraught, until one day, while at an ashram — researching his next book, which is on religion in America — he found himself sitting in a cave with blue-purple lighting. Suddenly, his "insides opened up." His life immediately changed. "Soon afterward I stopped drinking, stopped smoking, was meditating twice a day, seeing my therapist at eight o'clock one morning and working out with my trainer at nine the next."

He had found the Boyfriend Within. He had started dating himself, and you can, too. All you need is a pad and two colored felt-tip markers to succeed. Even if you're not as exceedingly attractive as Mr. Gooch, or built like him, or have his money, connections, or abode, you can like yourself. Just follow the exercises in his book after you shell out \$21.

To help you along, Gooch does the exercises along with you. Yes, the book is half biography. An example is Awareness Exercise Four, where you are supposed to write down "what might make you desirable as a companion on the open market of dating and romance." Before raving about his career and apartment, Gooch decides to spend a little time on his torso:

"Among the pleasures I found I could offer at least by proxy to my imaginary appraiser [was] a buff, toned body. I've been going to the gym ever since I was in college. I am not now nor have I ever been a physique magazine model. But I see my trainer twice a week. I swim 15 laps twice a week. I ride the StairMaster for 45 minutes while catching up on the week's magazines ... I blush to admit it, but now I could imagine going to bed with myself — at least for the sleeping part."

If that weren't enough, he also admits a few pages later "in Awareness Exercise Four, I derived pleasure from noticing that my developed shoulders were as sturdy as a wooden coat-hanger." If only he had kept them in the closet.

But don't overreact. In Exercise Six, where you write down the

qualities you want to develop, he notes, "'Modesty' shows up on some people's list, but not on mine." What traits Gooch would like to develop are "flexibility, emotional expressiveness, warmth, generosity, loyalty, and listening."

Well, to find out why someone should buy a self-help book written by a person whose own self-description makes himself sound as endearing as Hannibal Lecter, I ventured down to SoHo to have coffee with the writer. Gooch chose an eatery across from his house, The Twelve Chairs. After we seated ourselves and the waiter came out for our orders, Gooch told the young man why he hadn't been around recently. "I was on a book tour." I pull out a copy of *Find the Boyfriend Within* with Gooch's face posturing from the cover to show the waiter.

"Wow! That's a great photo! When was it taken?" he asked.

"Three months ago,"

"But you look so much younger."

"It was taken three months ago."

"But you look so much younger."

"Are you trying to say the cover looks airbrushed?" I ask the waiter.

"Let's change the subject," Gooch wisely offers and sends the waiter away with our orders.

BAR: How would describe what the Boyfriend Within is?

BG: It's pretty simple. It's kind of an ancient concept that happiness and self-respect and all things

come from inside. In one way, it's just the warm glow that you can get from your own positive qualities and those you'd like to develop. I just call it 'Boyfriend' to put a gay twist on it.

BAR: Does Freud have a term for it?

BG: I don't know if Freud has a term for it. I can't think of anything from Freud.

BAR:

What in your background makes you qualified to write a self-help book?

BG: Well, partly it's a special kind of self-help book. It's part memoir in a way. That, in fact, gets me off the hook of being a self-help guru, and the other thing that gets me off the hook is that it's not really pulling some type of psychological theory of being fit that will explain your life. It also doesn't really fit any kind of religious creed. In a way, it's a map of what happened to me and invites people to interact with themselves. Basically, it's about spending time with yourself.

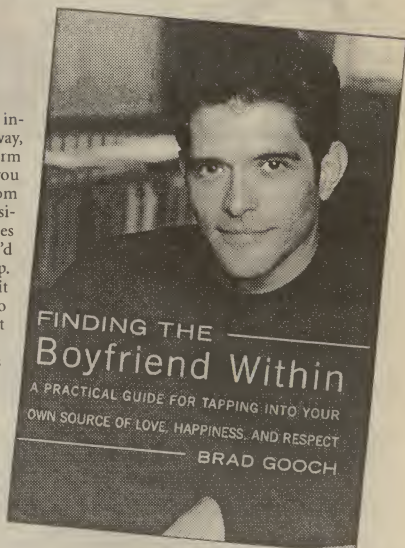
BAR: You write that if you saw yourself walking down the street, you'd like to sleep with yourself?

BG: I meant sleep as sleeping. I mean, I don't have a sexual attraction to myself.

BAR: So one of the goals of the book is that people should like themselves so much they could sleep with themselves?

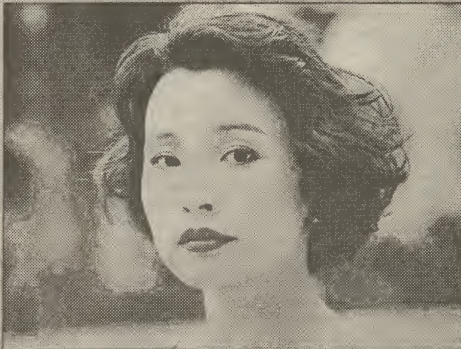
BG: Well, you do sleep with yourself every night, so if you're not comfortable sleeping with yourself, you'll have a rough night, as many people do.

(The very well-rested Mr. Gooch, by the way, is currently co-writing a screenplay about porn star Joey Stefano, and is looking for an actor to play him. You can no doubt send your photos and resumes to Mr. Gooch in care of his publisher.) ▼



## FILM

### Bringing us 'Down'



Joan Chen (pictured) is the director of *Xiu Xiu: The Sent Down Girl*, a love story set on the vast prairies of western China. Precocious Xiu Xiu (Lu Lu) enlists for horse-training in Tibet, so that she may be considered for Girls' Iron Cavalry. She is assigned to train under Lao Jin (Lopsang), a solitary horseman. Talk about meeting cute! Opens Friday in San Francisco. ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon

### Earth's wobbly rotation

Sometimes ordinary ideas lead to extraordinary results. So it was with the creation of Earth, the formerly monthly dance club (now going weekly) for the alternative gay crowd, formed last March by **Jeff Chandler** and **Gary Green**, best known as Jeff & Gary of Love Haight Lounge.

As Chandler describes Earth's evolution: "We were sitting around a table talking about how we wished there were some club where people would come down to Earth and be real." What Jeff & Gary wanted most was a queer option to the muscle-bound circuit-party scene.

The two promoters, a couple for 15 years, decided to install Earth in the spacious, high-tech, high-gloss space of 550 Barneveld, the site in the city's Bayshore industrial area of some truly out-of-this-world rare-style parties.

Before the duo opted to pull the plug on their Barneveld act (the space proved too remote and too expensive) and move Earth south of Market, the club at its peak drew some 600 revelers, primarily young men, Haight Street types, pierced, tattooed, baggy jeans and skinny.

But at last Friday's final Earth in the old location, the party drew only about 200 souls — too few to fill the main dance floor, where house music pumped away uselessly. Most everyone packed into the smaller trance room, with its more inventive, intriguing sounds. By the time celebrity house DJ **Ellen Ferrato** showed up to play the main room, hardly anyone was left to listen, so she bowed out, and the main room shut down early.

In the two remaining rooms (including the comfy chill-out space) the hit DJ of the night was **Peter Pan** (AKA Brandon J. Stanton), who wowed the crowd with ingenious mixes. Less satisfactory was the set by **KJ** (Keshav Jivnani), who started off powerfully (as his many fans expect), then let the intensity carry him away, with the force of his unrelenting dark beats driving people off the dance floor. Folks came back only after DJ **Joseph Lee** took over the turntables, spinning a less demonic, more uplifting set.

It would appear Earthsters prefer trance to house, but old ways die hard. Jeff & Gary stick by house, shying away from providing a purely trance experience. They're toying with combinations, offering something for everyone. The result, alas, is vibe dilution.

This less-than-ideal state of Earth may be partly resolved as the party moves to its new weekly location at 280 7th St. — home of the Rawhide, but redecorated with futuristic flair. One night a month at this excellent space (including a cool rooftop lounge) may be given over to trance; otherwise, house will rule. It won't satisfy everyone, but then at least once a month, trance-heads won't have to endure house, and vice versa. ▼

Earth will take place 9pm-2am every Friday night starting July 9 at 280 7th St. \$5 cover. Info: 705-0585.

Sharmon J. Hilfinger's *A History of Things That Never Happened* opens Wednesday at Magic Theatre.



**Eri**

#### Jon Sims Center

"Bear-A-Go-Go," a work-in-progress by AIRspace theater artist Alan Reade. A very personal look at body image in the gay male world, as seen through the filter of his Bear subculture. \$5-\$10 suggested donation. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. (at 11th). 554-0402.

#### Il Teatro 450

"The Possibility of Being," a comedy by gay Bay Area playwright Jeff Young, directed by Pam McDaniel, with Miriam Babin and Edward Sarafian. The loss of their gay son inspires an older couple to re-examine their life goals. \$15-20. 8:30pm Fri & Sat; 7pm Sun. Thru Aug 15. 449 Powell St., 3rd floor (near Union Square). 433-1172.

#### Josie's

"Comedy Gold Weekend," a marathon of Josie's favorite gay and straight comics. Call to learn who's on the evening's bill. \$10. 8pm. Thru Sun., July 11. Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. (at Market). 861-7933.

#### Theater Rhinoceros

"Killing My Lobster Loves a Parade," comedic vignettes for the frequently flummoxed. New sketches connect surprise parties for doctors in surgery, families who only wear clogs, combat-safety demonstrations at Renaissance Fairs & Auto Shows, and lots more. With the Rock Lobster Orchestra. \$10. Thurs-Sun thru 7/18. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (near S. Van Ness). 267-0642.

#### Eureka Theater

Climate Theatre presents AWD, 12 performers who fuse dance, live music, vocals and pyrotechnics. \$20 (\$22 Sat; \$18 Thu; \$16 Wed). 8pm. Thru July 17. Eureka Theater, 215 Jackson St. (btwn. Battery & Front). Tix: 392-4400 or BASS.

#### New Conservatory Theatre

Extended run: "Key West," written by Jack Heifner, directed by Ed Decker. On deck at Deja Vu (a clothing optional resort), two gay men find their friendship tested when a male stripper, a college stu-

dent and a cabana boy enter their lives. Probes the generation gap between older and younger gay men. \$20 Fri & Sat; \$16 Thu; \$12 Wed. 8pm. (Sun matinee @ 2pm). Thru July 31. 25 Van Ness Ave., lower lobby. Reservations: 861-8972.

#### New Conservatory Theatre

"Motel Sicks: A Dragapella Summer Vacation," in which the fearsome foursome of a cappella *Femme Fatales* kick sand in the face of good taste. \$20 Fri & Sat; \$16 Thu. 8pm. Thru July 24.

#### Old First Church

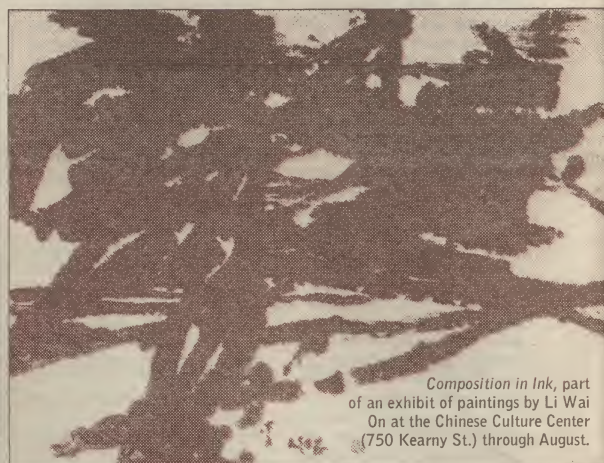
Old First Concerts presents KPIX news anchor Dave McElhatton narrating Igor Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat* (The Soldier's Tale) in a gala benefit for The Breast Cancer Fund of San Francisco. \$75 preferred seating and reception; \$25 general admission. 8pm. 1751 Sacramento St. Reservations: Breast Cancer Fund of SF, (800) 487-0492.

**Sat 10**

#### SF Ballet Building

"A Critical Appraisal of San Francisco Opera's 1999 *Der Ring des Nibelungen*." Classical music critic William Aguilar reviews the four "Ring" cycles in detail, discussing the published criticism of the performances and

attempting to identify a critics' consensus of the highs and lows of the various cycles. Then Aguilar will lead a discussion in which audience members offer their individual appraisals. Presented by the



Composition in Ink, part of an exhibit of paintings by Li Wai On at the Chinese Culture Center (750 Kearny St.) through August.

Wagner Society of Northern California. \$10 (free to members). 2pm. 455 Franklin St. 421-4412.

#### SFMOMA

"RGB," a special electronic music rave celebrating the opening of a major exhibition by video artist Bill Viola, co-presented by SFMOMA and Blasthaus. Featuring 16 huge

video-art installations by Viola and two massive dance sectors powered by Zebra's Turbo Sound System. Visuals by b.o.l.t. Lasers by UV-99. More than a dozen DJs and live electronic bands. Multimedia performers. A raffle drawing. \$15 advance; \$20 door. 18+up. 9pm-4am (Viola exhibition open until 2am). San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. Tix at SFMOMA, Open Mind Music (342 Divisadero), Housewares (1322 Haight St.). Info: 789-7690.

#### ATA Gallery

Other Cinema and Howling Bull Toy Store co-present "Japan Edge," a book-signing and screening to celebrate the new guide to Japanese subculture, *Japan Edge* (VIS Publications). Three contributors talk about Japanese fantasy, yakuza, and exploitation movies. Mason Jones plays experimental/noise music. Screening of Kenji Fukasaku's 1969 sci-fi cult favorite *The Green Slime*. Free miniature monsters and punk-rock CDs. Dress up in late '60s freaky/go-go/mod monster-mashing get-ups. Prize to best costume. \$5. 8pm authors' reception; 8:30pm lecture-demos. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

#### Josie's

Tom Ammiano, Marilyn Pittman and Suzy Berger display their comic genius in "Saturday Night Gay Comedy." \$10. 10pm. 861-7933.

#### Bridge Theatre

"Midnight Mass," with host-

screen, dance in the aisles. \$5. Midnight. Landmark's Bridge Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd.

**Sun 11**

#### Cheer San Francisco

Pre-audition workshops will take place on three days in two locations for those planning to audition for Cheer SF, the cheerleading dance and stunt team that regularly entertains at gay and lesbian events (including the upcoming March on Washington, DC). Today from noon to 3pm at Justin Herman Plaza Park (Washington St. & Embarcadero). Also on July 13, 8pm-10pm at Head Over Heels Gym, Emeryville (1250 45th St.), and July 17, noon-3pm at Justin Herman Plaza. Auditions take place July 18. Info: 995-2195.

#### PFLAG/St. Francis Church

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays hosts software developer Bill Hold talking about competing in business as an out gay man. He was strongly influenced by his parents, and has helped raise three children. Free. 2-3pm support group (all welcome); 3-4pm program. 152 Church St. (at Market). Info: 921-8850.

#### Stern Grove Festival

An afternoon of jazz featuring vocalist Diana Krall, who among many other notable

achievements performed tributes to Ella Fitzgerald at Carnegie Hall and Benny Carter at Lincoln Center. Free. 2pm. Arrive early to claim a picnic spot. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. Info: 252-6252.

#### A Different Light

Two events: First, at 3:30 p.m., short-story writers Nona Caspers, Gwendolyn Bikis, Robert Ordoña and Jim Tushinski read from two new anthologies, *His 3 and Hers 3*. Second, at 7:30 p.m., journalist Maggie Paley reads from *The Book of the Penis*, examining the facts, fallacies and escapades of this misunderstood piece of anatomy. Free. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

**Mon 12**

#### A Different Light

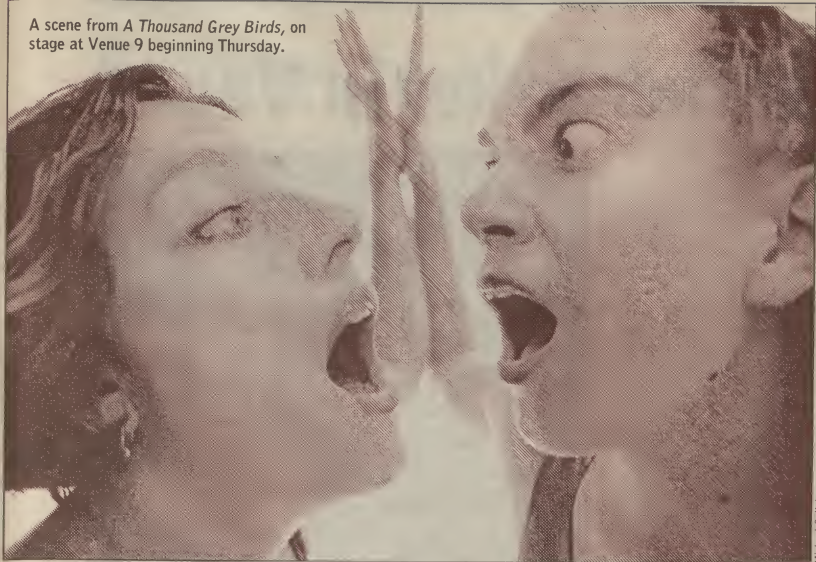
Allan R. Ellenberger reads from *Ramon Navarro*, the first book to examine the famous actor's homosexual life. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.



Cheer SF will hold audition workshops for those with leaping ambitions. See Sunday.



A scene from *A Thousand Grey Birds*, on stage at Venue 9 beginning Thursday.



Michael Callahan

### Josie's

Open Mic Gay Comedy continues its Monday night tradition of queer laughs. Hosted by Elvira Kurt. \$5. 8pm. No reservations necessary.

**Tue 13**

### Foggy City Dancers

This gay and lesbian square-dance organization offers free introductory lessons today and each subsequent Tuesday in July. Everyone is welcome. 7:30-9:30pm. 117 Diamond St. (btwn. 18th & 19th). Info: 452-8112.

### Venue 9

Footloose presents *Women's Work*, featuring singer/song-writer Andrea Guskina, a dance solo by Rachel Short, solo comedy by Kim Porter, and movement improvisation by Dharam Kaur Khalsa, Ralph Paterno and Susan McKearnan. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). 289-2000.

### Josie's

"Senator Swish," the long-awaited sequel to last year's "Hot Pants Homo," continues the pulp-novel style of turgid earnestness celebrated by author/director F. Allen Sawyer. Set in the masculine world of politics where high pressures twist human desires. \$10. 8pm. Tue & Wed thru July 28. 861-7933.

### A Different Light

Catherine Brady reads from *The End of the Class War*, a

collection of stories exploring the lives of working-class Irish American women. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

**Wed 14**

### Magic Theater

Opening night: Sharmon J. Hilfinger's *A History of Things That Never Happened*, a comedy of confused correspondence, unrealized fantasies, and an unassembled motorcycle. Directed by Andrea Gordon; produced by Bootstrap Foundation. \$25 (tonight only, including reception; other nights \$22; \$17 students/seniors). 8pm. Thru Aug. 8. Fort Mason, Northside Theater, Building D. 441-8822.

### Metropolitan Community Church

Episcopal priest Carter Heyward, one of the first women clerics in the country, preaches at the 7pm service, then signs copies of her book, *Priest Forever*. Free. 150 Eureka St. (near 18th). Co-sponsored by A Different Light Bookstore. Info: 431-0891.

### A Different Light

Mary Wings reads from the latest in the Emma Victory mystery series, *She Came in Drag*, set in the Castro as Halloween creeps up. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

### SF Art Institute

Joint opening receptions: "Hover: 118th Annual Exhibition," featuring site-specific works relating to the physical and psychological space of the SFAI; and "Emerge," presenting the second-annual juried exhibition of "the Bay Area's hottest emerging artists." 5:30-8:30pm. 800 Chestnut St. (for "Hover") or 701 Chestnut St. (for "Emerge"). 771-7020.

**Thu 15**

### Piaf's

Return engagement: "A Hymn to Love... the essence of Edith Piaf," starring cabaret performer and film actress Ivy Jones. Part of Piaf's *Vive la France* month. Dinner/show packages start at \$35. 9pm (Tues-Thur; 10pm Fri & Sat). Thru July 24. 136 Market St. 864-3700.

### Venue 9

Opening night: Footloose presents "A Thousand Grey Birds," a movement/theater piece drawing on bird imagery, film noir classics, and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, directed by British-based choreographer and theater director Angus Balmerie. Original music composed and performed by Mark Growden. Featuring Angela Bausch, Daniel Burkholder, Brenton Cheng, Mary Alice Fry and Krista DeNio. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm Thurs-Sat. thru July 31. 252 9th St. (at Folsom). 289-2000.

### A Different Light

Harold Lustig discusses *Four Steps to Financial Security for Lesbian and Gay Couples*. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

### SF Camerawork

Lecture by photographers André Cypriano and Donna Decesare discussing their award-winning projects. Cypriano's documentary images examine an impoverished Brazilian town struggling to survive under the tyranny of drug dealers and neglect from local government. Decesare's series looks in-depth at the exportation of LA gang culture to Central America and the Caribbean through the dislocated lives of the youth who are forming a new "stateless" class of migrant outlaw. \$6 (\$4 members and students). 7:30pm. 115 Natoma St. 764-1001.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

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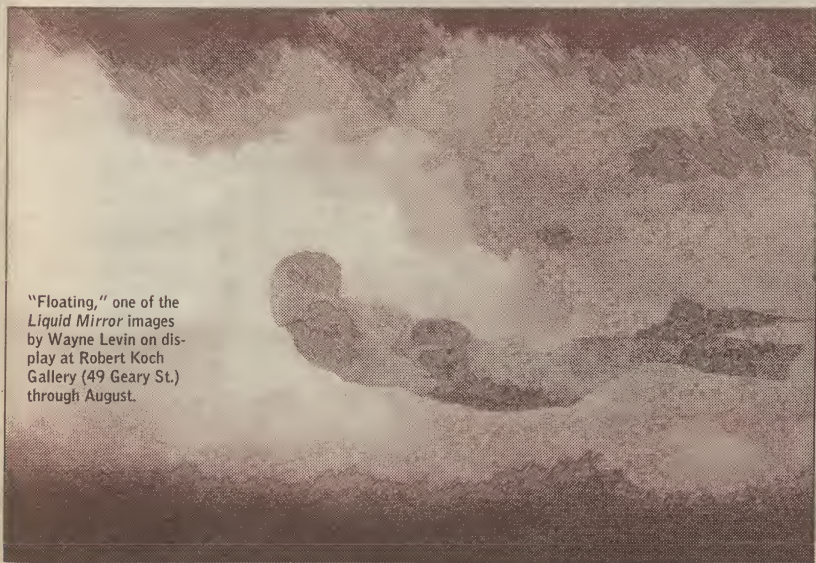
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Wayne Levin



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To donate leather call Lion Tom Rodgers, 861-0516 after 6 pm, or bring items to the auction.

## LEATHER SCENE

# Leather dykes in Vegas

by Mister Marcus

The major event for leather women of the world will take place next weekend, July 16-18, in sunny Las Vegas where each of fourteen leather women and four female boot-blacks will do everything in her power to leave that desert oasis with the sashes of International Ms. Leather 1999 and the first-ever International Ms. Boot Black.

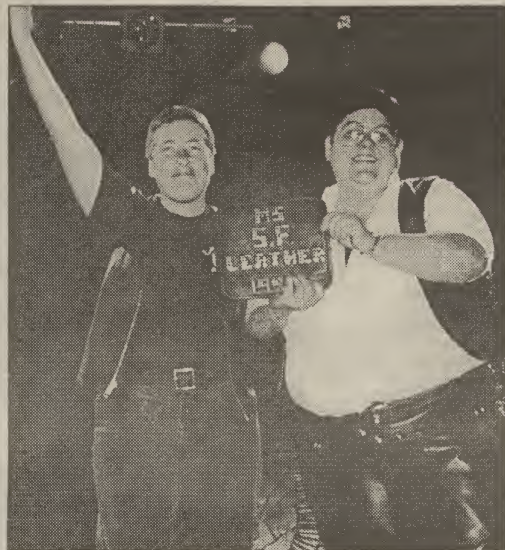
Tony Mills and Sarah Humble will share the emcee duties as the following women compete: Laurie Aguinaga (San Jose); Vikki Clark (Omaha, Neb.); Marilyn Dickman (Alameda Co.); Faye Foltz (Long Beach); Ms. Kathryn (Albuquerque); Sybil King (Orlando, Fla); Suzy Koenigs (San Diego); Lorrie Lind (New Orleans); Mario Lorenzi (Calrissa, Minn.); Pam Meyer (San Francisco); Peggy (AKA O), (New York); Michele Smith (Owings Mills, Maryland); Ms. Stacey (Brooklyn, NY); and Cricket Watkins (Chula Vista, Calif.).

Four women will vie for the International Ms. Boot Black title: Leslie Anderson of Albuquerque; Stacie Herbert of New Orleans; Ms. Lenny of Toluca Lake, Calif.; and Deb Preston of Portland, Oregon. The boot black competition will be conducted exactly as it is conducted at IML in Chicago.

Needless to say, countless private and public parties will take place all over the host hotel (the World Trade Center Hotel, which is sold out already, as is the major bed and breakfast for men, Chapman Guest House). On Friday night, July 15, there's a press party and the basket auction, as well as a stepping down party for Megan Dejarlais around midnight.

Saturday afternoon festivities include the Men's Reception, East Coast Women's Reception, and West Coast Women's Reception. Then comes the main event, on Saturday evening. By that time, the judges will have had personal interviews with the contestants.

And who are the judges? Well, I'm very honored and also happy to join the panel headed by Judy Tallwing-McCarthy, our own Au-



Ms. SF Leather 99 Pam Meyer (left), with Beth Kelly, will compete for the IMsL 99 title in Las Vegas next weekend.

drey Joseph, and Joanne Gaddy of Chicago; also on board are Intl. Mr. Drummer Herve Bernard and Rose Vergara of Washington, DC, plus renown author Kate Bornstein. Intl. Drummer Boy and American Leatherman Ryan Goldner and his other half Scott Reikofski, will be the tally masters.

It all sounds like a sterling production for this 13th edition of the highest women's leather title in the world.

And since I can't help but spread a little dish about, you may as well know right now that Amy and Megan Dejarlais are definitely an "item," and Megan will be moving to Omaha in the very near future. There you have it.

### Bits & pieces

The biggest thing going around these parts last weekend was the Fillmore Street Fair, which stretched for some nine blocks from O'Farrell to Clay Streets. There several jazz stages kept the crowds enthralled, with quite a few leather men digging the sounds.

Leather was everywhere, of

course, at the Big Basket contest held at the Edge last Thursday night. Just as apparent were the many bulging eyes.

Big pecs and big nips prevailed at the Powerhouse on Friday (all begging to be tweaked); the Forum held a beer bust at the Powerhouse on Saturday; and the San Franciscans took over the Eagle's Sunday beer bust. All these events reported big crowds with lots of cruising tourists.

On Monday night at Blow Buddies, the free-for-all concentrated on you-know-what. But not everyone was there; lots of people headed for the Russian River for fun and games. All in all, it was a laid-back Fourth of July holiday weekend.

### Sour grapes

What would you do if you decided you wanted to join one of the clubs, you applied, and then you were advised that you were not accepted? Well, don't pout. If they don't want you, be done with them. Or try another group. Isn't that the rational thing to do?

Sorry to say, however, a man who was not accepted for membership in one of the newer local

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Weekend, July 9-11

Cal Eagles MC "Eagles Over Tahoe" weekend run, with rooms \$95 to \$170, which includes everything but a roll in the hay. Two continental breakfasts, open bar, banquet dinner. Always fun.

In Baltimore, Carl Baldwin steps aside from his Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer title and Ryan Goldner from his Mid-Atlantic Drummer Boy title. The Drummer Boy contest is Friday night at the Baltimore Eagle and Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer 99 will be chosen at the Hippo the next night. Thanks guys for a great year!

### Saturday, July 10

Leathernecks SM party tonight at the Castlebar, with doors open 2100 to 2230 by invite, with a \$12 fee. You know the rules and the location, but if not, e-mail TheRing@ix.netcom.com.

Deadline for Mr. Northern California Drummer & Boy contests is at 1400 today. Bring your application to Daddy Philip (440 Castro) and draw your number for the contest taking place on Saturday, July 24.

### Sunday, July 11

12th Annual Leather Auction by the Castro Lions, with Thom Rodgers doing the honors, 1500-1800; \$8 beer bust and great bargains!

### Wednesday, July 14

Golden Shower Buddies let it all flow tonight at 933 Harrison. Walk in. Swim out. Call 863-HEAD if you're new at this game.

### Weekend, July 16-18

Mr. New England Drummer contest takes place at the Boston Ramrod this weekend. Charles Carley has all bases covered.

IMsL contest makes its 13th appearance, this year in Las Vegas at the World Trade Center hotel. Tickets still available. See details above.

### Saturday, July 17

Emperor T.J. and Empress Sheba do a Diva Dinner in a dungeon in Miraloma Park at 1800. More details next week.

### Wednesday, July 21

Leather Discussion Group at Club Eros at 1930 with "Master Glen" expounding on "The Art of Topping". Free. Wear leather!

### Friday, July 23

Leather Daddy XVII will be chosen tonight at the Eagle with an \$8 beer bust, entertainment and a new sash awarded. No details at my deadline, but what else is new?



# Soldiers of sleaze

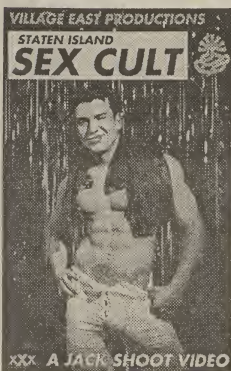
by John F. Karr

I grabbed the video off the shelf, ensnared by the cover shot of a muscleboy in sheer pants, sporting a boner so sizable and perfectly shaped that it could only be a dildo. A souped-up cover is the oldest come-on in the porn world, but what if that beautiful bulge was real? Yet knowing all too well how hope abounds where a box cover boner is concerned, I braced myself for a bilking. But hallelujah! With *Staten Island Sex Cult*, I fell into a wonderful new world of porn. The company is Village East Productions, and the director is Jack Shoot, neither of whom I'd heard of before. The cast, too, were total unknowns to me (and aren't even named on the box, or identified by face during the video's credits). The video may lack some of the sheen higher profile companies bring their product, but it's a treasure. It has great music, touches of wit, a philosophical backbone, and a bundle of hot real-world dudes having messy sex.

The video's opening has some incomprehensible nonsense about Andrew Cunanan's murder of Gianni Versace, but things heat up soon enough, when The Leader of the cult appears with his daily marching orders. Seems the cult is part of an interplanetary crusade to bring peace to the universe, with a method that eschews hand-to-hand combat for man-to-man lovemaking.

"Remember," The Leader tells the assembled sex vigilantes as they gather in the cluttered kitchen of their Staten Island headquarters to down their morning coffee and Cheerios, "we're the doorway, the next step in the evolution of man."

The morning's exercises will be rigorous. "You two," The Leader barks. "You, on your back, with your knees up on your shoulders. And you, get your face down there



among the asslips. Clamp your face down on that sweet pink thing and suck!"

But this simple-sounding workout is fraught with Mission: Impossible intricacies.

"Remember — even though you're banging on the door and hold the keys in your hand, this is no time to get caught up in goal-oriented thinking. Remember to pay attention to the neck, nipples, and earlobes. It seems like a small gesture, but it releases vital electrical impulses in the lower cranium. So, really, dude — lots of extra chewing."

"And you bottoms — you aren't some passive chewed-up wad of gum. You're a co-conspirator! It's you and your buttocks, partners in freedom!"

Wrapping up his morning exhortation to the troops, The Leader confides, "I told you this was gonna be more fun than Scientology."

Thankfully, director Shoot gets his cast to practice what he preaches, and every one of his soldiers of sex offers illustration by engaging in artful and arousing foreplay. Yet what hooked me even before the video's raunchy sexuality was its music — long stretches of mesmerizing dub, in-

sinuating bass and drum, with flavorful touches of acid jazz saxophone. It's hypnotic, sex-saturated music, and the director lets it set the mood and pace, with all five of the video's sex scenes taking their cue from its sleazy sensibility. The music is especially highlighted when strippers grind to its lowdown beat in two slutty dance sequences.

The Kid on the box cover is one of these dancers. He's a street-wise Adonis, this humpy young stud, and in his solo routine, he shows he's a classic poser, as well as a merciless tease of a stripper. How he works our desire for his creamy skin, dappled with freckles and stretched over his rounded muscles; how he clenches the momentous mounds of his blooming ass cheeks; how knowingly he carresses and thrusts the bulge of his leather-clad basket towards us. And the dick that's veiled on the box cover? It's real, baby, and it's a hefty redeemer: smooth on top, veiny on the bottom, with a big, satin bulb of a head.

The rest of the guys are attractive, hot, and racially mixed. They have a real-world look that most of the icon-making pornographers of the West Coast have lost touch with. Most of them have tattoos, and some of them have body or facial hair. Several have pierces someplace or another (eyebrows are popular). And cockrings. Boy, do these guys understand the importance of jewelry! And they work — they have rumped, sweaty sex, and offer major splooge after their workouts, which generally end in a passionate kissing and jack off moment.

Just as independent features sometimes show up the Hollywood big guns, so does *Staten Island Sex Cult* surprise the slicker porn industry. It's got its awkward moments, and the plotting, editing, and acting are classically clunky. But man, does it steam with sex and music. ▼

## Mister Marcus

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clubs has threatened to sue the group, charging discrimination based on his wearing glasses and being deaf. Apparently he plans to invoke certain clauses of the American Disabilities Act, and appeal to the Human Rights Commission. Do we really need this divisive tactic?

A private club is a private club, restricting its membership to whomever the group wants to have in its ranks. You'd think a mature, educated person in the gay world would be able to handle rejection, whether it be of a sexual nature or otherwise.

Hopefully, this matter will be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, and soon.

### A departure

Sadly, I must report the passing of one the community's most colorful personalities, Eddie Cunningham, the long-time partner of Wally Sherwood. My dealings with Eddie were always of a polite nature, and we all know how hard he worked on the various projects he dealt with. He wasn't a loudmouth or a gossip, but went about his duties with a pleasant demeanor and a caring attitude. He will be missed by many who worked closely with him. At my deadline, no word of a memorial service was received. ▼



Leslie Anderson of Albuquerque is one of four contestants for the first-ever Int'l. Ms. Bootblack competition at IMsL 99 next weekend in Las Vegas.

## a taste of leather

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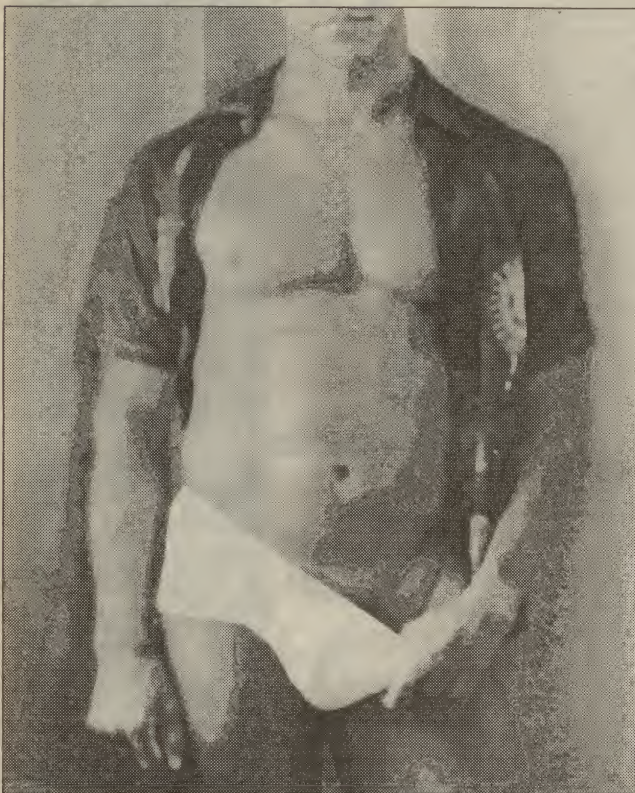
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### PARTING GLANCES

**San Rafael 3rd St. Sat 6/5-1:00**  
You were in a black w/ convertible on your way to the Russian River. I was in a teal buick. We both have sp hair. Spoke briefly. Mutual attraction? Let's connect. ☎ 8000

**Dolores Park Sun 6/6**  
You: Handsome, brown hair, white square-cut bathing suit w/boxer puppy + friend w/tattoos. Me: blond, black w/red stripe square cut w/friend. We smiled a lot + you winked before you left. Wish I'd said "hi". Wanna meet? ☎ 8001

**May 31- Sweet Dennis**  
Memorial Day afternoon in Berkeley. Anytime? How about one more time at least? ☎ 8006

**Viet Bobby Pleasure Dome June 6**  
Hey cutie- had a great time singing in car. Call please- ☎ 8003

**West Side Story May 31**  
Sat in front of you, you were so kind turning cooler for backrest. Met again in restroom line, didn't have card. ☎ 8103

**Pablo Some 1 Misses U**  
My roommate is broken hearted but living on recovery. Wish u-z could have lived or dreams. Hope things work out 4-u at home. El te quiero! Carlos. ☎ 8005

**Backpacking On Bart 5/28**  
Gabe- met you at the Powell Street station, you: in route to Lost Coast; me to family party- we chatted. Call me- I'd love to go hiking with you! ☎ 8008

**Champaign Landcruiser, Gold's**  
You: Blonde, moustache leaving Gold's Gym Saturday morning 6/19. Me: Brown moustache going to parking lot. ☎ 8202

**Blow Buddies Sun 5/23**  
We met inside as I was leaving. Once outside, you saw me and called to me. We did some gut-punching. Let's do more. ☎ 8010

**Goatee Stud W/Asian Friend**  
Castro Street, late Saturday night, June 12, I caught your eye walking in opposite direction, cruised, but had to keep walking w/two friends. Call for more! ☎ 8100

**Bob From Fresno/ Foothills**  
Bob from Sierra Foothills. Looked for you in Berkeley but haven't seen you for a while. Give a call, 8 ☎ 8309

**City Tow Thurs 6/10**  
You: moved here from Scottsdale, blocked a driveway. Me: commercial meter, didn't bark. Your: My "exchange" dilemma. You lingered near flowers. Pondering those moments, your smile since. ☎ 8102

**Whole Foods, California Street,**  
Afternoon Thursday, June 3rd. "Hi" near bulk foods. My "exchange" dilemma. You lingered near flowers. Pondering those moments, your smile since. ☎ 8007

**Market/Castro 18th June 4:50PM**  
You: Gorgeous WM, salt and pepper, tall, slim, blue shirt, grey pants, middle age. Me: Tan-Mediterranean in black, with 2 friends (starring as we crossed the intersection) Dinner? ☎ 8200

**"Fed Up" At The Theatre Rhino 6/3**  
You are tall and handsome sitting in the front row with female friends. Did not want to interrupt, should have interrupted. Would like to talk. Coffee? A drink? ☎ 8104

**"Tues. Sucks" & You Did Me! 2/22**  
Around midnight, in back of basement near "JAIL". You thanked me (middle-age, thin, smooth body, curly brown hair, thin stripe of hair chin to throat). I loved it too- you were unusually good. Call if you want more; happy to reciprocate too! ☎ 8305

**GAM Swimwear Model 5/14/99**  
At AIDS Health Project event. Me: GWM, brown hair, dark suit. We exchanged glances and hello as I left. Would like to say more. ☎ 8002

**Bed, Bath, Beyond, May 30**  
You were the beautiful black guy on bike in line behind my buddy & me. I'm the one with the moustache. Wanna meet? Wanna marry? ☎ 8009

**Steamworks- Memorial Day**  
Josh: I've been thinking about the hour we spent working up a sweat! It was fun & I enjoyed it. It would be great to do it again, Jon ☎ 8004

**Looking For Greg**  
Hello Greg. This is Peter. We met at Steamworks on Saturday June 5. Would like to see you again in a more private atmosphere. Please call. ☎ 8105

**Confetti- (EC-4) Tues 6/8 1:30PM**  
You- slender, blonde, blue-eyed-sitting by window with Asian woman friend. Me- bright yellow shirt, green tie. I sat by your table with friend. If interested please call. ☎ 8106

**ATM @ Mass On Memorial Day**  
You: 6'4" thin blonde, killer smile, you said hi, my receipt wouldn't print. I got shy. You/friends arrive Pleasure Dome in Taurus- Me: 6'3", soaked, slidy blonde in tan jeans, want to say hi! ☎ 8107

**Black And White Ball**  
GWM seeking the GWM (Chris?) met in extraordinary encounter at Opera House before Martha Reeves. I was with friends. Regret leaving you. Please call David. ☎ 8201

**Michael We Met On #33 Bus**  
Then we met again at Pasqua on 18th. Me, David with the bad memory. I was really embarrassed that I forgot you. Please call. ☎ 8203

**Elgin Park Open House 6/23/99**  
You: grayhair, braces & breath taking smile. Me: white bandanna, red coat and black biker pants. How about coffee, tea or me. ☎ 8204

**Ethan We Met At Market/Noe**  
In front of Bagdad Cafe on Friday May 21. We walked with our friends to Pilsner, then I departed. My name is Jeff. Let's meet. ☎ 8205

**"That's A Nice Acura" You Said!**  
In front of car lot on Shattuck in Berkeley on 6-27. You: 30's tight bike shorts showing nice package. Me: Older WM with short and back pack. We cruised, missed opportunity. Call ☎ 8300

**Greg! Castro Street Party**  
You, 6'1", blonde, I told you, you were beautiful. Your smile left me speechless and I fled, like a fool. I've admired you for years. We should chat! Call me! Mark. ☎ 8301

**Sunday-20 June-9PM, Christopher**  
You on way from Market St. to Van Ness. Me, wanting to be rid of gym bag. Missed seeing you at Pilsner. Great smile and tattoos. Call "Randopher". ☎ 8302

**Palm Springs Memorial Day Wked**  
You, WM driving a blue Ford Ranger, me, 8M with the Honda Civic. You helped me with my car on Perez Rd., then we went to Hunters later. Coffee??? ☎ 8303

**Driving On Portola Sun 6/6 6PM**  
You: handsome Asian man driving new silver Cougar. Me: smiling Whiteman passenger in green Neon. We smiled a lot. Wish we could have connected. Coffee? ☎ 8304

**6/19 Pyramid Brewery**  
It was late and we were both with female friends who figured us out first. You finally waved but didn't stop your truck to say hello. Wish you had. ☎ 8306

**Metro 6/22 6:15PM**  
You: Rick. Me: Larry- small talk, you could not have dinner, left w/o saying bye. Can we meet. Please call. Your very handsome. ☎ 8307

**Ron Fenton Where Are You?**  
We trysted twice in your lesbian friends' frozen house, but I was even colder. I just wasn't ready then, but haven't stopped thinking of you since. Could we try again? ☎ 8308

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Older 4 Younger**  
GWM, 66, 6'1", 190# bald moustache, hairy chest, seeks GM under 50 for friendship and hopefully much more. ☎ 8314

**Intimidating Looking**  
GBM, aggressive, dominant, strong, serious, romantic, gentle, discreet, HIV+, goodlooking, 9" and 7" round, 49"ch, smooth. One one body. Big round butt, big swollen nipples. Strong legs, black only. ☎ 8011

**BiWm Seeking Dominant Asian**  
Please be under 40, attractive, in-shape and emotionally secure. I'm 32, blonde, muscular, good-looking, submissive and masochist (can switch). I will serve well if you take time to know me. ☎ 8012

**GLM 28 Stud Looks 4 GWM 24-35yo**  
Latin, good shape, looks, 5'6", HIV-. You: GWM/mixed race, HIV-, confident, masculine to share endless happy nights & feverish days. ☎ 8013

**Relationship Oriented Man**  
Seeking men with intellect wit and good manners. I'm HIV+ and will travel. Expts paid by me- no drugs or alcohol. ☎ 8014

**GWM Bear Looking For Slim Guys**  
I'm 40yo, 6'3", 220, husky build, boyish face. Your 35-45, slim, any height, GWM/LM. Into movies, music, books, nudity, romance, cuddling, touching. San Francisco preferred. ☎ 8015

**Expert Cockucker**  
Senior GWM 57", 130lbs, begs to worship verbal married straight, hgt-weight proportional, on a casual basis, no snr, no stds. ☎ 8016

**HIV+ Bk 150# 5'10"**  
You 50 or so maybe Jewish or White with a fairly tone lean or slim physical average waist-line with height and weight. Seeking 1 on 1 interaction. ☎ 8017

**Encouraging E.Bay P0Z Men/Color**  
We're financially/ emotionally stable, into conversation, travel food, live entertainment, romantic & sexuality. I'm a professional versatile bottom, small & sexy, masculine, 40, seeking companionship, fun & maybe even you. ☎ 8018

**Educated African American**  
Young & cute 28, 5'6" 170, 150 friendly-LTR with honest good looking intelligent HIV- single guys 23-35. I enjoy dancing, cooking, hiking, the beach & being romantic serious reply only!! ☎ 8019

**Square Seeks Edge**  
I'm a nice, boyish mainstream guy (GWM, 33, 6'1", 165) turned on by wild looks: skaters, punks, skinheads, tattoos, etc. Seeking sex (vanilla or rough kink), maybe more. ☎ 8108

**GWM Seeks GBM**  
Likes books, art, architecture & spirituality. Sense of humor essential. No crazies, right-wingers or woman-haters please. ☎ 8109

**Woof! Woof! Woof!**  
Well-mannered cat seeks gentleman bear. 5'9", 200#, dark hair, bearded. Love music, theatre, art, leather/denim, motorcycles. Out & proud! 8e gertie, furry, clean, smart, in or near San Francisco. ☎ 8110

**Black Male Seeks White Male**  
I'm 26, 5'10" 155lbs. Handsome, masc, gym toned. You are masc., under 32, young looking, nice body for pleasure in bed, adventure out of bed. We both detest one-nighters. ☎ 8111

**Join Us!**  
Gay Men's Group. 30-50 seeking LTR monthly meetings or parties. Nice guys any. Sincere guy welcome! ☎ 8112

**Ltr W/ Well-Adjusted Man**  
You: 28-40, GWM/GLM, employed, secure, like movies, not a bar-fly, work out regularly. Me: 6ft, 160, brbr, workout, kind, generous, love looking for Mr. Right, not Mr. Right now. ☎ 8113

**Live Together Lover**  
53yo, HIV+, professional, westerner, father, workout, 5'11", nice guy, vers, shaved head, goatee, NS, light drink, got shit together. You: no games or 85, any age/race (like younger), open to LTR, vers, hot kinky sex, volunteer. ☎ 8114

**Hugs And Kisses Come First**  
Affectionate toman needs bottom for play and for relationship Me: GWM, 48, 6'5", 250lbs, brown hair/moustache, hairy chest/stomach. You: GM (White, Asian, Latin) slim, 21-35, smooth/moderate bodyhair. ☎ 8115

**Handsome GWM Seeks Chubb GWM**  
30year old, swimmer's build, loves reading, classical music, traveling. Desires to build long term relationship with someone down-to-earth, open-minded and loving. ☎ 8116

**Full Life, Stable Relationship**  
GWM 37, handsome, slender, excellent relationship material. Enjoys most activities, seeks GWM, loving, romantic, good person, under 45 for serious and sincere relationship. Is this what you really desire. ☎ 8117

**South Bay**  
Masculine, well-endowed, easy-going toman, 49, 6', 190#, short silver-gray hair/beard, seeks eager bottom in San Jose area. ☎ 8118

**Focus And Fit**  
Professional, affectionate, witty, clean-cut, rugged Asian, 51, 5'8", 155, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular WM for adventurous companion. Enjoy the outdoors, hiking, workouts, films, ethnic foods, cultural arts and you? ☎ 8119

**PGWM Seeks Self-Assured GAM**  
39yo Finance Executive, Pacific Heights, masculine, strong, fit, intelligent, well-built, well traveled, conservative, nscene seeks GAM, fit, traditional, intelligent, self-assured, top, for dinner, movies, pampering. ☎ 8120

**Someone To Be Kind**  
To in between the dark and the light... Handsome, International Business Man 6'1/60, 55yo, silver fox, 150 25-50yo, tender, intelligent, employed, mtd and HIV- guy for LTR. ☎ 8121

**"Armageddon Of Beef!"**  
Beefy, hairy, 6, 180#, professional desired by sexy GBM, caramel brown, 40, goatee, writer into jazz, romance, cooking, arts, dogs, sex and monogamy. ☎ 8318

**"Tues. Suck" & You Did Me! 2/22**  
Around midnight, in back of basement near "Jail". You thanked me (middle-age; thin, smooth body, curly brown hair, thin stripe of hair chin to throat). I loved it too- You were unusually good. Call if want more. Happy to reciprocate too! ☎ 8305

**Good Man Single & Available?**  
Educated, friendly European with traditional values (oh no, not a bore!) 38, 6'170, athletic, good looking, balding/short hair, seeks partnership with W/H man of values. ☎ 8206

**Palm Springs Memorial Day Wked**  
You, WM driving a blue Ford Ranger, me, 8M with the Honda Civic. You helped me with my car on Perez Rd., then we went to Hunters later. Coffee??? ☎ 8303

**Big Ass Lips, Big Loose Hole?**  
Rim service available for protruding donut shaped ass and/or easy loose hole. If you are under 45, skinny and dark haired, give me a call. I am 48, 175 and good looking. ☎ 8207

**GWM Seeks Love**  
ISO loving, caring, warm, affectionate GWM, 29-40 for LTR, who likes dining out, movies, kissing, cuddling. Me: GWM, 39, 5'11" 125lbs. brown/brown. ☎ 8209

**Insatiable Fil/Am Bottom**  
48yo/lo looks 30's. I love to suck and get my pussy/ass fucked. 5'9", 160lbs, clean shaven HIV- It smoker, non drinker, very cute, love good smoke. Love all but pain. Seeking that special 8+ only top who needs to fill both my holes daily. LTR. ☎ 8210

**GWM Seeks Man Of Color**  
For friendship, sex, possible LTR. 5'10", 170, blonde, 44, bottom, HIV+. Like the arts, outdoors. Call me, kintle. Thanks. ☎ 8211

**Mid Peninsula Asian Cockucker**  
41yo/bk/bm 5'11", 185, smooth skin. ISO a man under 48 to give head to at your place within the South Bat. ☎ 8212

**Handsome Italian**  
40, 6'2", 185lbs into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times, seeks another HIV negative Latin man who is sincere and romantic for monogamous relationship. ☎ 8213

**Handsome WM Seeks Hot AM**  
Looks 40's, 5'11", 160, hairy, Daddy-type, educated, well-traveled, seeks slim, short, 25-35 AM with boyish looks for friendship, dating, NS, light drinker, leading to LTR. ☎ 8214

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**Metro 6/22 6:15PM**  
You: Rick. Me: Larry- small talk, you could not have dinner, left w/o saying bye. Can we meet. Please call. Your very handsome. ☎ 8307

**Ron Fenton Where Are You?**  
We trysted twice in your lesbian friends' frozen house, but I was even colder. I just wasn't ready then, but haven't stopped thinking of you since. Could we try again? ☎ 8308

# BAR TALK

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

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**Prime Spousal Material**  
Fun, friendly, fit, GWM, MD, 5'11", 150# versatile, pr. friends. Attractive mid 30's (Actually young 40's). Sometimes a bit wild. You: GWM 26-38 HWP not balding HIV-clean-shaven. ☎ 8310

**Eclectic GWM 44 SKS, New Friends**  
Warm hearted, engaging, intellectual, handsome, hairy, top, HIV- N/5 with arts interest, seeks friends that complement. Race/Nationality open; have world-foreign culture interests. ☎ 8311

**Italian Top Seeks Hot Bottom**  
Attractive, 32, 6'1", 185lbs. fit, masculine, hairy, adventurous, seeking GWM 20-35, slim/smooth A+, romantic, passionate, for fun & friendship & more. ☎ 8312

**Still Searching**  
SWM, 30's, 6'1", 170#, attractive, HIV- with wide range of interests (hiking, movies, music, etc...). Looking for friendship, dating, intimacy, hopefully leading to LTR. ☎ 8313

**Seek Great Kisser, Oral Lover**  
Attractive SWM, 6'2", 200#, brown, blue, clean shaven, seeks same 45-60 for ongoing fun, romance, foreplay, exploration, erotic, safe oral, rimming. Maria/Sonoma ☎ 8315

**Seeking....**  
Rope bondage master, ISO serious masochist for partnership who enjoy clothpins, flogging, spanking et al for exploration, pain & pleasure. You be in shape. I'm 5'10", 185lbs, friendly & experienced. Serious Only. ☎ 8316

**Comp.=Intimacy & Passion 4 Two**  
Seeking an intelligent, sexual, impulsive, compromising guy to share experiences and passions of life with. I am gentle-hearted, fun-loving, shy, bubbly/child-like personality, affectionate, light brown hair/blue eyes. ☎ 8317

**Wanted Intelligent Gay Young**  
man to associate with a older man on a Large Estate in Carrisal Valley. Incredible beautiful wild animals. ☎ 8208

**One On One**  
Hand-bodied Black guy, 5'10", 170#, 32in. waist), smooth, muscular, masculine, employed, uncot, non-smoking, drug-free, quiet bottom, seeking discreet, masculine, masculine top for private relationship. ☎ 8319

**Leather Daddy ISO Boy**  
Masculine, dominant WM, 6'215, hairy chest, 50's, seeks leather boy for LTR. You should be fit, healthy, 25-35yo, bottom into bondage & discipline. ☎ 8320

**HIV+ East Bay Top Wanted**  
Capricorn, Cancer, Virgo only must have black hair, brown eyes, any race-HIV+ Pittsburgh bottom, 37, blue, brown, 6foot, 185, looking for a suburban loving guy to play house with! ☎ 8321

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Oral Exams Harder Than Written**  
Because you can't take anything for your doctorate. I'm getting mine in cocksucking. Wants me to be the recipient of my orals? You'll think I'm Dr. Cocksucking already. ☎ 8020

**Horny Top Wanted**  
HIV+ Europ. GWM (29'6", 185lbs) seeks good lky. fit HIV+ top for sex and friendship. ☎ 8021

**Hot Top-Help Me Fuck My Man!**  
Hart: GWM 44, 5'8", 155lbs, big uncot dick, kinky b+d needs abuse! Master: GWM 47 5'10" 179lbs. good build huge nipples, great dick/balls. Top satisfaction guaranteed. ☎ 8022

**Bondage And Flogging**  
I'm looking for a playmate who likes to administer bondage and flogging. Safe sensible and moderate. I'm in my 40's, lean and athletic. ☎ 8034

**Wrestle-Play, Anyone?**  
Two leanly muscled guys looking to get out of our heads & into our bodies wrestling other guys 3-way struggles, gang-ups, tag-teams. Let's sweat as we playfully struggle to submission. I'm 6'2", 168, my wrestle-buddy's 5'11", 160. You're hard, skinny to muscular, G/B, WM, any height, and ready for sensual, muscular fun. ☎ 8023

**Chubby-Daddy-Teddy-Grizzly-Bear**  
Hot, fun, vul. Deep bl eyes/voice, 6'128 CHUB, groomed short beard/stache, hairy chest/belly, 6'cut. Safe, sane & versatile. Vanilla to sate kink. U= trim & affectionate. ☎ 8024

**Muscles? I'll Eat Your Ass**  
Muscular, GWM, clean, 20-40 let my probing tongue get you hot, when your ready to shoot, shove your cock down to asshole and I'll suck you off white tonguing your hole. ☎ 8025

**Total Bottom, WM, 35, Buzzcut**  
5'10", 155lbs bubble butt, washboard abs, excellent sucker, pretty face, great ass. ISO total top. ☎ 8026

**Hot Pig Bottom Wanted**  
White guy 55, 6', 155lbs brn/bn glasses, big 9" cock wants hot White, Latin or Asian pig bottom to fuck. You be under 40 and submissive. No fats or fairies. ☎ 8027

**Hry Masc Mid-Aged**  
6', 230#, 50yrs. + masc. Looking for other hry mid-aged men. Into jly, sniffling, licking, kissing, being verbal. Hry A+. E-Bay preferred. ☎ 8028

**Long Hot Sessions**  
Vers. well built, 5'11" hung big. Needs well built men (20-30's), hairy with cut cock. Want long, hot sessions to eat, fuck, get fucked. ☎ 8029

**Vietnamese Guys**  
I'd like to drink your pee, snk your nipples, give massage, and anything else you like me to do. ☎ 8030

**\*Brazilian Passion\***  
Hot versatile German/Portuguese 155#, 5'10", brn/gym, Smooth Body, Gym Toned, Super Sensitive, Luscious Kisser, Super Healthy! Athletic HIV+. Looking for fun guys to connect or possible LTR. ☎ 8031

**I'll Satisfy You To The Fullest**  
Me: 35yo HIV- always horny n excellent receiver. You: 18-48yo top, HIV- husky a plus. You'll never forget me. ☎ 8032

**Senior ISO Senior**  
Very sexy senior looking for fit older men into sucking, rimming, nipples, etc. Any age, color or weight. Aroma a plus. ☎ 8033

**ISO Masculine Bottom**  
Masculine, spirited WM (youthful gym build 5'6", 145, HIV-) wants grounded in-shape bottom for intense, nurturing connection. Men/bos of all races welcome. ☎ 8035

**Older Master Seeks Yng. Slave**  
For on-going master-slave and/or daddy-son scenes. I'm 5'8", 170, dominant. My boy is 18-45, gll/k, healthy, and prefers serving an older man. ☎ 8122

**Just Shut-Up And Ride**  
WM 34, 5'10" 200lb, blond/blue, muscle guy- 48" ch 33" w, 18" arms-wants good-looking masculine men to pump me/or get pumped. Also love to get massage and jerked off- anytime. ☎ 8124

**Hungry Bear Luv's To Lick Sweat**  
ISO smooth, lean, sweat slick GWM, G/M tops 18-30 needing arid TLC, got a friend? I luv getting it from both ends at once. Grungy young skater dudes A+. ☎ 8125

**San Diego GWM ISO Full Service**  
Pig btm 4 wknd wallows. Shaved head, got. Cut castron dick str8 up in thick bush of fun/ry in public hair. Hairy npe ass, crusty jockstrap. 6' 170# 48 y/o, young, hung & full of cum. Short, hairy, tats, rings A+. ☎ 8135

**Boyfriend On Vacation**  
Cute SF GWM 29, 6' 160lbs. oral versatile seeks cute G/M for discrete affair. Makeout, U/O, head, more, all good. Skinny mods, rockers, hippies, hipsters, couples, groups a plus. ☎ 8215

**Seeking Bondage And Flogging**  
Seeking playmate who likes to administer bondage and flogging. I'm 40's lean and fit. ☎ 8126

**Free Erotic Massage**  
Nude gentle loving care for cute guys under 30 who are slim or muscular from an in-shape middle age livedy dad. No reciprocation needed. ☎ 8127

**Wanna Fuck A Big Daddy Bearbutt**  
SF big daddy bear seeks 18-30yrd. old, non-chubby butch boy stud with throbbing dick to pound his big-but fuck me again, and again, and again. ☎ 8128

**Short Men With Big Cocks!**  
Let this hot daddy service your big cock. You be under 5'8" and hung big. Daddy's 50's, tall & trim. I like trim, masculine, muscular guys 20-40 only. ☎ 8129

**Asian And Filipino Bottoms Yea**  
Big dick Italian top-wants to lick & fuck your ass. 36, good looks & fun. Respond only if you want it. ☎ 8130

**AI Oral Service- Delivered**  
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dy getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV-. ☎ 8131

**RearEnd Fever**  
Very sexual mature G/M bottom searching for select G/W/LB tops for premium anal enjoyment. Prefer talented medium/smaller endowments, endurance, afternoons (if possible), age/looks no factor. Be HIV- ☎ 8132

**Attention Big, Tall Husky Guys**  
Willing to feel my smooth buccal cavity, why wait! You: Bi/GWM/straight 18-35 HIV-. Me: Asian 5'9", 35 w/talents for contractions and relaxations. Feel heaven inside of me. ☎ 8133

**Kick Back!**  
Friendly, GWM loves to play with and suck cock. Seek in shape G or bi will 18-45. Great time. Let me worship your dick. ☎ 8134

**Friendly Bottom Needed**  
Semi-shy super slim top, 30, 6'1" 150lbs, 8" HIV- seeks bottom boy to suck and ride my thick shaft. You be proportionate, normal, dedicated bottom. Asian A+. ☎ 8136

**Want Top In East/South Bay**  
Educated Asian professional, good shaped, 50+ but younger looking, no previous sex experience, wants to experience getting fucked by a gentle, clean, HIV-, r/d, top of any age/race. ☎ 8138

**ISO Servicing**  
GWM, total top, 35, 180, 5'11", smooth, nice pouch, E-Bay, can travel ISO: White/Latin bottom into fucking, deep throat sucking, serving all the way, clean & serious only. ☎ 8136

**Asian Seeking Bottom**  
Asian top 5'7" 130# 30yrs. slender, gym tone seeking Caucasian or Latino man. Beely, muscular with facial hair A+. ☎ 8123

**Asian Top/Bottom**  
Sought by very healthy gay/white poz guy. I'm very attractive, sensitive, affectionate athletic, 6', 160lbs, 40's built, shy. UBv. healthy too. ☎ 8217

**Bend Over, I'll Drive**  
Well hung uncot 8M needs very experienced mature black bottoms for get-togethers at your place. S.F. or Oakland only. ☎ 8128

**Slave Boy Sought**  
Manly Master (tall, slim, fit, 45) seeks submissive servant for ongoing garden work and domestic sexual service. Serious replies only. NS/ND. Prefer: 30's, fit muscular, HIV-. Will train. ☎ 8219

**Wanted: White Foreskin**  
30yr old, gllkn GWM seeks uncot caucasians 20-45yrs. You kick back while I worship your skin. HIV status unimportant. ☎ 8220

**San Francisco Asian Male Seeks**  
GWM under 45, hung for hot times. I want to be your bottom. Call now. ☎ 8221

**HIV+ Blk, 150#, 5'10"**  
Blue collar, slim physical build. You 50yrs. or so with waist and height in line. Please be fairly tone and interested in some kind of physical activity. Jewish A+. ☎ 8222

**I've Really Gotten Into Piss**  
So how do we really get your piss into me? Cute/young/uncu/ 150#/br-bl/suck-offen big loads too! My cup runneth over. Just don't overwhelm me. ☎ 8223

**Big Hands Big Feet Big Meat!**  
GWM, 57, 6', 165 seeks big sexy men, blue collar types who are in-shape & will-endure. Kick back and let dad service your big hairy cock. You'll cum back for more. ☎ 8224

**Powerlifters- B/B, S18 or Bi, Any Race or age.**  
Pose and show it off in the East Bay to an admirer. Relax and let my lips, mouth and hands all over your big body. Hairy A+. ☎ 8225

**Erotic Chastity Bondage**  
Days without cumming. Intense sensual play, orgasm denial. Mutual/reciprocal, interactive, friendly/affectionate. Tancric yoji, 52, 5'8", 175# solid bald beard. ☎ 8222

**Affectionate Senior**  
Affectionate GWM, 65, in S.F. 5'9" 150# HIV- heard N/5, N/D light drinker. ISO fit mature masculine GWM, G/M for fun and friendship. ☎ 8232

**Jack Bottom**  
Masculine guy looking for same to play my hole on a regular basis. Intense sessions. Fucking, sucking. Leave details. ☎ 8234

**FFB Beginner ISO Nasty Top Man**  
Goodlooking guy looking to meet FFT for fun and hole stretching. Be interested in teaching me about fisting. Also love big dildos, dirty talk. Like all types, older, nasty A+. ☎ 8235

**VEL Exotic Dad**  
6'-185lbs 50 looks 40- salt & pepper hair & stache, muscular, HIV+ hairy-huge, uncot meat- ver-passionate, romantic ISO hunky, hot, hung red heads & blonds up in shape, very poz, 35-50. No attitude, N/C/N/A, herb ok. Passion, facial hair A+. ☎ 8137

**Your Hot Butt My Face**  
Ride my strong tongue and bushy mustache. Me= 38, 6', 165 brn/blu, hot & handsome. You= Hot and ready! ☎ 8236

**Daytime Sex Wanted**  
Attractive GWM seeks other horny men for daytime fun. Sane, safe & no-strings. I am 38, 5'9", 155lbs, smooth and I have a nice cock for you. ☎ 8232

**Asian Or Latin Wanted For Fun**  
GWM, 46, 5'8", 145lbs, seeking guy in decent shape for hot times & friendship. Do you like to kiss, hug, stroke & have a good time? SF only. No LTR please. ☎ 8238

**Hairy Blond Seeks Uncut Latn**  
I'm 34, 6'3", dark blond/blue eyes, muscular swimmers build, nice butt & cock. Seeking 1 or more in-shape uncot Latin men 18-45 for hot sexual encounters. ☎ 8239

**Always On The Go**  
GBM, 39, 6', 200lbs, hairy, looking for a top to hold me down a while. If you are easy going love to have fun, call. ☎ 8333

**Spank Me...Cute Student 22**  
Athletic, into team sports, needs over the knee action from dominant big brother or father. ☎ 8334

**Chubby-Daddy-Teddy-Grizzly-Bear**  
Hot, fun, vul, 52y/o, deep bl eyes/voice, 6'128 CHUB #3, groomed short beard/stache, hairy chest/belly, 6" cut. Safe/sane/vers. Vanilla to sate kink. U=trim/affectionate. ☎ 8330

**Wanted: Ass Eater**  
Goodlooking white guy, 38, 185, and smooth, seeks handsome men who love eating ass. I love getting my tits sucked, and give great head too! All nationalities welcome. ☎ 8331

**Hard Young Bodies And Cocks**  
Wanted by tall, slim daddy. Strip, kick back and get the blowjob of your life! Straight, Married, BI, or GWM welcome. You be 20-30 with well-defined body. ☎ 8327

## FETISHES

**ISO Uncut Dicks On Slim Guys**  
ISO slim WM or LM to let me tongue fuck their asshole. I'm late fifties, 6'1", 195#, uncot A+. No seat, dick, dildos, first optional. Slim only! Clean only! ☎ 8230

**Bondage Top**  
Experienced bondage top, 41, 5'8", 155, good looking, seeks submissive, masculine guy, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Limits respected. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF, East Bay. ☎ 7922

**Black Mouth Craves Black Dick**  
8M, 38 seeks very masculine, fit, verbal 8M/LM (21-45). Drop by, drop your pants. I'll worship you. My place, S.F. Perhaps you have a friend. Oral only. No reciprocation desired. ☎ 8036

**Mature Tootless Cocksucker**  
WM 50 looking for older man who loves to suck cock and maybe eat my ass out. I am relaxed and not pushy! ☎ 8037

**Cum Sit On My Face**  
GWM 5'10" redhead, uncot, loves eating ass and ranch play. Verbal and big butts A+. ☎ 8038

**Horny/Kink**  
WM, 30's, 5'8", 145# slim, smooth, 6'cut. Looking for other G/B WM, into butt/dick play, clothing w/ and other aspects of kink. ☎ 8039

**Paddle Action**  
Hot plegmaster/coach will adjust attitude of in-shape, preppie, collegiate, punk, biker type guys who need it. Pants down, your butt, my paddle. ☎ 8040

**Wanted: Hot Young Barefeet**  
You: 18/23, boyish, skinny & smooth, White, Latin, Asian with cute barefeet. Bi male 30's, discreet, will rub massage, tickle & orally service your barefeet, maybe more? ☎ 8041

**South bay Safe Assplay**  
Relax and point your luscious young buttcheeks north for erotic spanking, fingerdildo intrusions. I'm handsome, youthful 42, 5'9", 200. No reciprocation expected. ☎ 8042

**Goodlooking Brown Hunky Bottom**  
Experienced toilet pit, seeking masculine top over 30, with facial hair for slow feedings. Also into WF, FF, cigars, leather and more. I'm 40, 6'2", 180, short hair, thick goatee. ☎ 8139

**Daytime Asshole-Eater!**  
Gey your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 8140

**Young/European/Slave/Betrained/Dog**  
26 year old handsome and extremely submissive boy from Europe, wants a full dog training. The master must be cute, de-manding, under 35. Satisfaction with the dog is guaranteed. ☎ 8141

**Need Dominant Men To Use Me!!**  
Submissive GWM bottom loves being face fucked, slapped around and forced to service dominant men! Love leather, uniforms, role playing, toys and verbal abuse. Black men or Latinos a plus. ☎ 8142

**Hot South-Bay Dildo Bottom**  
GWM, 39, goodlooking, blond/brown, muscular, 6'1", 200#, HIV- ISO hot, muscular (25-45) GWM/GLM top for safe play. ☎ 8143

**Spank Your Ass?**  
BM seeking young guy with cute, firm, tight, little butt for over-the-knee spanking. Afterwards, I'll give you a blow-job or massage or both. Your choice. ☎ 8144

**Head & Ski Masks**  
Blue collar skinehead gives free blow-jobs to cholos, punks, & studs. Wear derby jackets, ski-masks, steel toe boots. ☎ 8145

**Clean Shaven For Summer?**  
Ready to lose the stache/beard today? GWM wants to shave it off you or watch you do it & j/o! Safe & for fun-bodies too. All ages & types. ☎ 8226

**ISO Hell's Angel Type**  
Must be uncot with dirty body, nasty mind. Will service on reg basis. Me: 50's handsome hot wet tongue. ☎ 8227

**Genile Raunchy Action**  
WM 42, 6', 160lbs. ISO others to scat on me, rub his butt in my face, and slowly & gently rub it all over. Not into S & M, pain, B & D. ☎ 8228

**Blond Beasts, Smooth Or Hairy**  
For me it's so scary that I'll kiss your ass, but please don't pass any gas; your boots I'll lick clean, just don't be too mean. ☎ 8229

**Squat On My Hairy WM Face!**  
ISO slim WM or LM to let me tongue fuck their asshole. I'm late fifties, 6'1", 195#, uncot A+. No seat, dick, dildos, first optional. Slim only! Clean only! ☎ 8230

**Big Butt Lips & Loose Hole**  
Deep rimmed by gllg. Kinky dude 48, 6-1, 175. Pumped ass hole and hemorrhoids given special treatment. I prefer skinny, dark haired younger guys. ☎ 8335

**Nylon Tights Love Relocating**  
Floridian seeks studio/apt for 2 months. Seek GWM who love sensuality of tight outdoors, bicycling. ☎ 8336

**Roped And Bound**  
Experienced bondage top, 41, 5'8", 155, attractive, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 25-40, for erotic bondage and play, safe, discreet. SF, East Bay. ☎ 8337

**Massive Daddy Tits Need Action**  
WM, 50's, good bod, red hot hips, shaved head, stache, bullballs, very verbal. You're groupund, and hot nip play. Hairy, husky bears A+. ☎ 8338

## OTHER

**Just Me**  
52 year old white transgendered male, would love to meet older man or women. I just love the feminine role. Love cute dresses. Shy, submissive and nice. ☎ 7923

**English Headmaster...**  
Seeks young persons, for corporal discipline. Hand, strap, cane. Build character through thorough spanking. Victorian atmosphere. ☎ 7924

**Exhibitionist And Voyeur**  
East Bay BI WM seeks Lesbian or BI females and BI males who have female friends who would enjoy getting together for some adult fun. ☎ 8043

**Seduce My Lover**  
Adventurous dark-minded top wanted to seduce my lover; lies, travel, lots of extras, whatever it takes. ☎ 8231

**Seeking Pre-Op M-F TS**  
Male, 60, black/ German, body-builder, stud, sex toy, versatile. You: 18-40, no inhibitions. ☎ 8339

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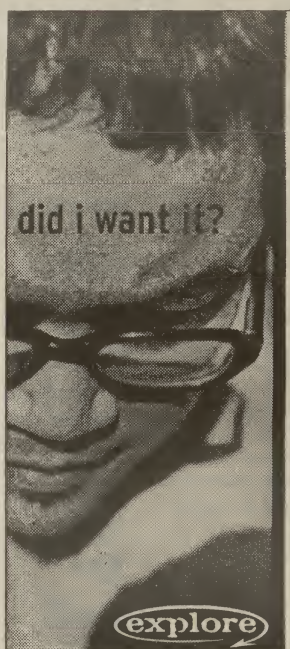
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# Eccentric amusements

by Marv. Shaw

*Collected Tales and Fantasies* by Lord Berners; Turtle Point Press, \$16.95 (paper)

The British have always been proud of their eccentrics, some of whom, like George Bernard Shaw, have also been remarkably prescient and talented. Lord Berners, little known on this side of the pond, scored notable successes in music, all the while living and creating in a manner as fanciful as his most bizarre stories. His imagination was inspired by such puckish, sophisticated and satiric companions as

Gertrude Stein, Serge Diaghilev, and the Sitwells. This collection reflects his and their temperaments.

"The Camel" details the loving relationship of an English countrywoman and a camel which has miraculously appeared in the community. The traditional, respectful attitude of the English toward pets is deservedly skewered when it appears that they cannot accept Antonia's pet as they accept their dogs.

Similarly, "Mr. Pidger," a white Pomeranian, is so adored by Millicent Denham that she calls him "my little angel of light." Mr. Pidger is as natural and rambunctious as any terrier ever was, and

although quite unwitting of the human consequences of his doggie behavior, ironically brings about dire events to Millicent and others. The skillful handling of the irony demonstrates Berners' high talent at pointedly using everyday life in literary creation.

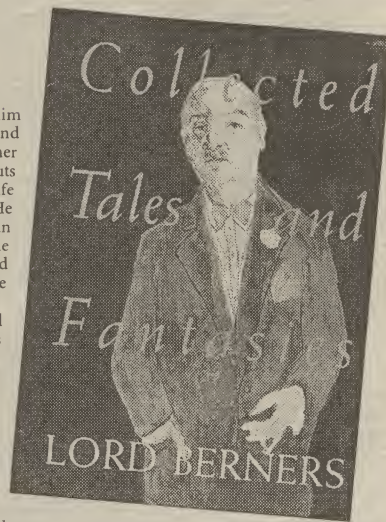
The outright fantasies are most amusingly and still realistically shown in his story of Cleopatra, "The Romance of a Nose." Berners transforms history into an outrageous tale that might at first be written off as ridiculously distorted: it's a chronicle of Cleopatra's destiny being determined by her going to Greece from Egypt to have a plastic surgeon reduce the size of her nose. But so much of what happens afterwards matches what verifiable history has told us of that lady's charms over Julius Caesar and Mark Antony that we prefer to believe Berners rather than some dusty historian.

Born Gerald Tyrwhitt, Berners inherited his title and the estates

that made him rich in 1918, and as his biographer Mark Amory puts it, "his life bloomed." He soon became an intimate of the leading men and women of the arts.

They all knew him as gay, and Berners was not at all reluctant to use gay characters in his tales. A notable example is Mr. Scrimgeour, a wretched church organist, who is described as having a face like a tired fish. His fancy for a local youth who is an outstanding athlete turns into his undoing. Berners' insinuations about Caesar's bisexuality are further evi-

dence of a gay sensibility. But most of all, the reader has the feeling, in these tales, of being read to in tones that are lavender but arch, in the manner of Noel Coward. ▼



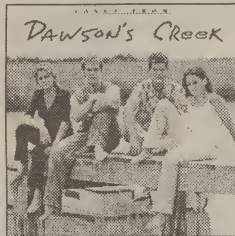
# Tune in tomorrow

by Gregg Shapiro

The things you learn! Anyone, young or old, who saw the Brandy and Whitney Houston television movie of *Cinderella*, and thought it was as precious as a glass slipper, should know that there were two previous *Cinderella* musicals. One was in the 1950s, and it starred Julie Andrews in the lead role. The other one (the one that I remember) was shown in the 1960s, and it starred Leslie Anne Warren as *Cinderella*.

The soundtrack to the '50s Julie Andrews version of *Cinderella* (Columbia Broadway Masterworks/Legacy) has just been reissued on compact disc with four bonus tracks. So before she was cross-dressing (in *Victor/Victoria*) and tending to troubled children (in *Mary Poppins* and *The Sound Of Music*), Julie was charming a prince (played by Jon Cypher). The thing I like the best about this soundtrack (other than the fact that it contains my favorite Rodgers and Hammerstein song, "Ten Minutes Ago," sung by Cypher) is that Alice Ghostley and Kaye Ballard played *Cinderella*'s stepsisters, Joy and Portia respectively, and they get to sing the wicked "Stepsisters' Lament."

Like television shows, television soundtracks have changed considerably over the past



fortysomething years. You can hear proof of the change on *Songs From Dawson's Creek* (Columbia/Sony Music Soundtrax). With the exception of the queasy "Kiss Me" by Sixpence None The Richer and Paula Cole's "I Don't Want To Wait" (a song that has long been associated with the weekly *Dawson's Creek* series), the remaining dozen tracks are pretty much a showcase for Sony Music artists. That's not meant to be a complaint, since there is a contribution by queer performer Sophie B. Hawkins ("Lose Your Way"). Other unexpected pleasures included Chantal Kreviazuk's cover of Randy Newman's "Feels Like Home," and a song co-written by former Michael Callen collaborator Marsha Malamet ("Did You Ever Love Somebody," sung by Jessica Simpson), as well as tracks by Heather Nova and a new one by PJ Olsson. ▼

# BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

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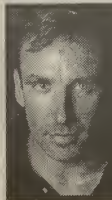
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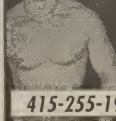
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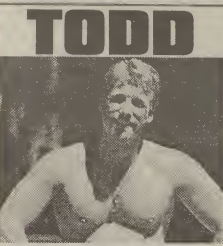
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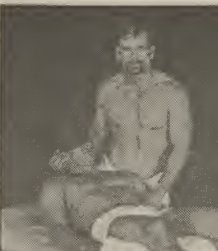
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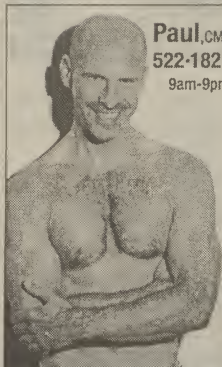
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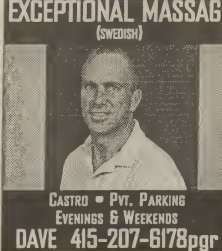
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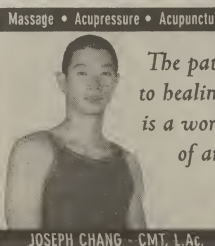
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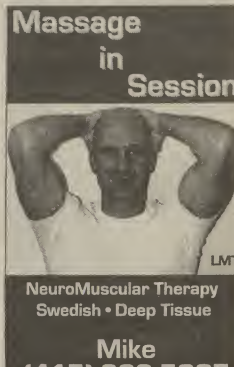
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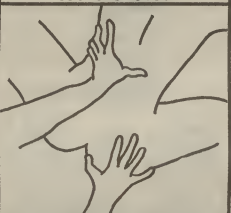
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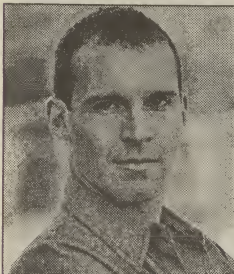
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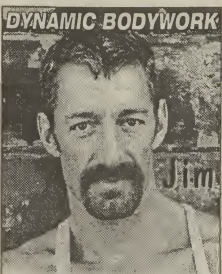
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


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rubdown exceeds expectations.  
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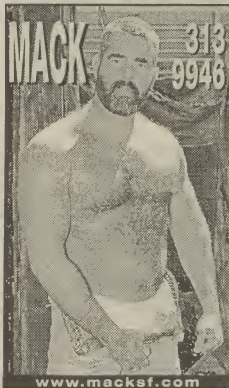
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Hard, raw, tight, long, thick, juicy stud.  
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Handsome masculine, gifted & nice  
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Italian stud, black hair brn eyes  
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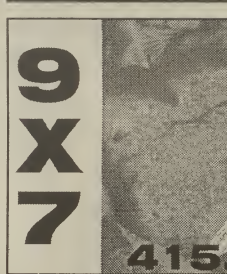
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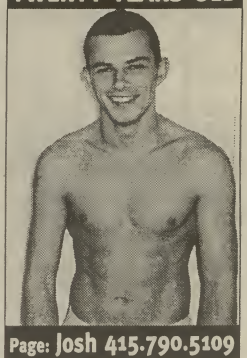
6', 160#, lean swimmers build,  
smooth, very cute, friendly, energetic  
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5'7" 135#sexy,slim,smooth 908-8888

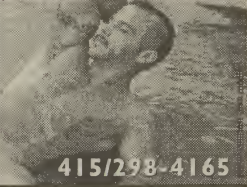
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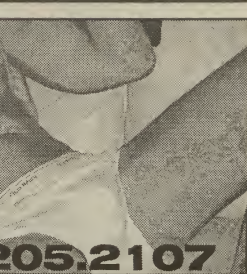
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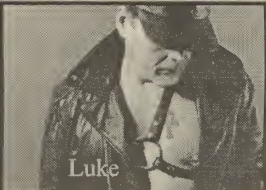
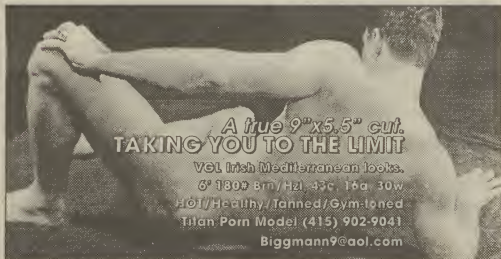


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Cleancut Midwesterner  
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Tight body, ripped abs  
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Hndsm, hairy, massively endowed  
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6', 200, 31, bi, very masc, muscular  
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8X6 VERY THICK**

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Slave  
Training.

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Brown Hair,  
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7" Uncut.

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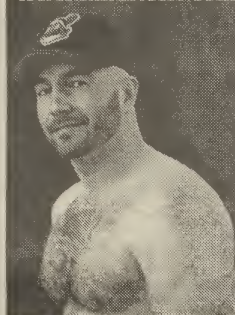
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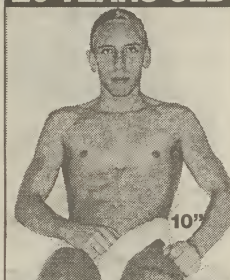
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24y.o. 6'3" 200# green eyes 6x8  
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Masculine bottom to serve you  
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Take control. pg Nick 709-1467

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Summer's here-It's time to sizzle  
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Will fill you up  
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Cute 21yo 6'1" uncut pierced  
punkboy from Prague, offers safe  
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Size 12 feet. 21yo boyish WM  
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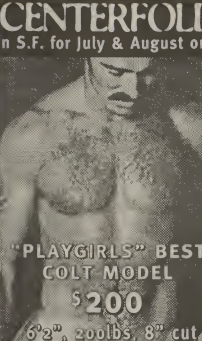
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5'8" 150 8' PGR 414 0132 E28



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Bi guy, 6', 210, blond, blue, 40, at-  
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healthy is seeking a few good sexual  
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94596. E27

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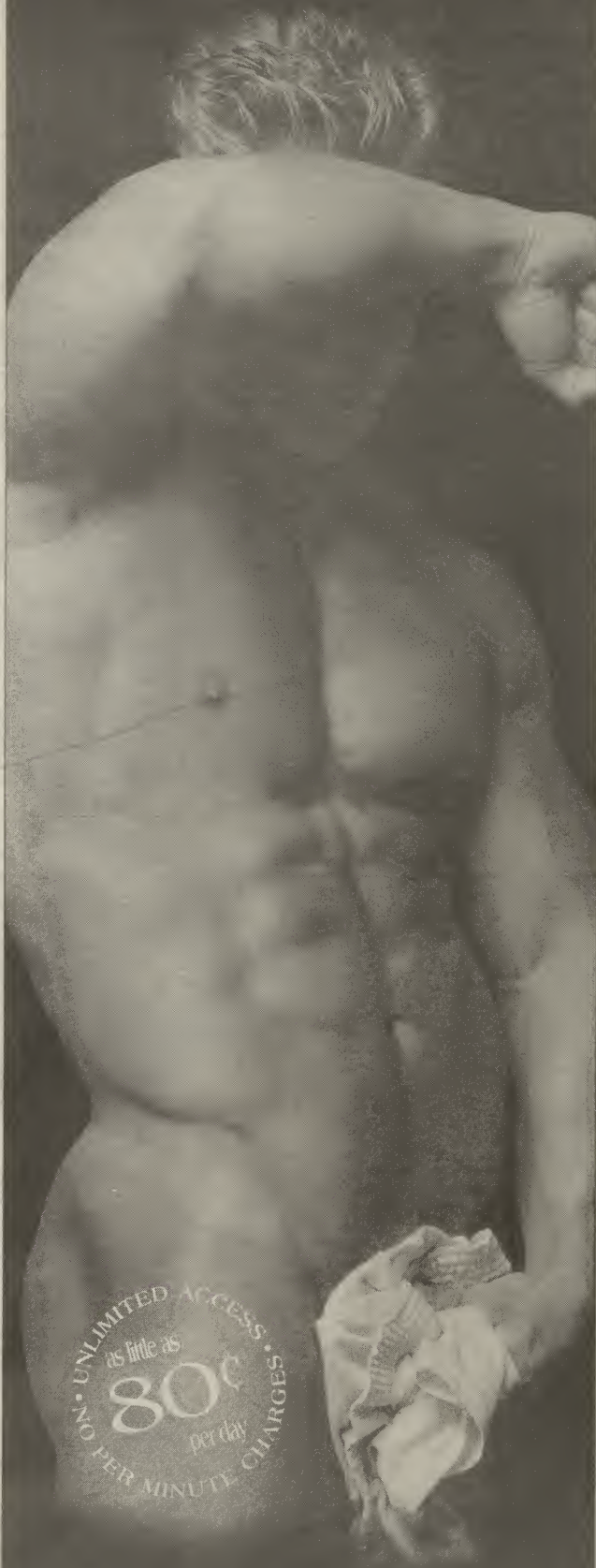
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